



THURSDAY APRIL 1 1982

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Price twenty pence

Fight for defence contract

British and American companies are fighting for a £100m contract to supply the RAF with a radar system. The order could safeguard thousands of jobs in the British aerospace industry. The competition could be as fierce as last year's battle to supply the Royal Navy with a new type of torpedo.

Back page

Crown Agents property sale

The Crown Agents is close to selling its Australian property portfolio to an insurance group, Australian Mutual Provident. The sale is expected to raise between AS 310m and AS 320m (£182m and £188m). Page 13

Chirac missed bomb train

M. Jacques Chirac, Mayor of Paris, had planned to travel in the carriage of the Paris-Toulouse express which was destroyed by a bomb. Page 6

English rebels return home

Most of the English cricket rebels who toured South Africa returned to London fielding defensively all questions. Rumours persist that an Australian team will be recruited as the next tourists in government. Page 17

New D-notices are issued

New D-notices, the voluntary system of self-censorship on security issues operated by the press and media, have been issued. Their number has been reduced from 12 to 8 and for the first time terrorism is mentioned. Page 17

Whitelaw hits back

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, rebuked in the strongest terms the leader of the Greater London Council and its police committee chairman for their outspoken attacks on the capital's police force. Page 5

Action sought on glue-sniffing

Glue manufacturers would be forced to add a foul-smelling chemical to their products to deter glue-sniffers under an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill, tabled in the Commons. Page 3

County votes to keep hunting

An attempt to ban hunting on more than 100 county council farms in Leicestershire was lost by 46 votes to 42. The 44 Conservatives on the council all voted to preserve hunting, joined by one of the five Liberals and the sole Social Democrat. Page 19

Wimbledon cash

Prize money at Wimbledon this year has been increased by 77 per cent, to £52,420. The men's champion will receive £41,667 instead of £21,600. Page 19

Double killing

An elderly widow and her son have been shot at their home in Wigan. The police found Mr Seamus Lyons, aged 38, dead near his mother, Mrs Vera Lyons, who died later in hospital. The police believe they were murdered. Page 7

Murder strike

Spanish doctors, angered by the murder of a surgeon in San Sebastian, have called for a 15-minute strike tomorrow. The ETA has claimed responsibility for the killing. Page 7

Leader page 11
Letters: On the political centre, from Lord Lansdowne, and others; politics and police, from Mrs M. B. Simay, and others; Falklands from Mr R. S. Rowlands, and others.

Leading articles: Europe and Germany; Falklands.

Features, page 10
Why the English cricket rebels' tour will probably lead to more visitors'arnings in South Africa; who has to pay for the black blues parties? towards a new national service for the young.

Obituary, page 12
Dr F. G. Mann, Mr. Harold Keeble

Steel names terms to serve under Jenkins

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr David Steel has told Mr Roy Jenkins that if he is to serve under him in Liberal-Social Democratic government he would expect to be deputy Prime Minister, as well as either Home Secretary, Foreign Secretary or Chancellor of the Exchequer.

On the assumption that Mr Jenkins becomes leader of the SDP, he and Mr Steel will present themselves to the electorate as joint leaders of the Alliance or as a "duumvirate", at the next general election, with the understanding that Mr Jenkins would be Prime Minister in the event of an Alliance victory.

The assumption behind the Steel-Jenkins talks is that Mr Jenkins will emerge as SDP leader and that moves within the party to make one member of the gang of four party leader and another the Alliance leader will fail.

The assumption seems well-founded but the idea, of which Dr David Owen has been the most prominent proponent, was given added currency yesterday when Mrs Shirley Williams again raised the question.

In a speech she said that although Mr Jenkins was the national leader of the Alliance and the best potential candidate as Prime Minister, "the SDP must not now slip towards a hierarchy dominated by a single person, however wise or brilliant."

She argued that the concept of collective leadership should be retained as far as possible.

Mr Mike Thomas, SDP MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, East, a supporter of Dr Owen, called for a separate leader for both the Alliance and the SDP which, he said, would allow the Alliance leader to hold the ring impartially between the parties so that neither would feel the Alliance leaned too much on the other.

In line with the "duumvirate" concept, Mr Steel and Mr Jenkins would play an equal role in the general election campaign. It is accepted by both that with Mr Jenkins defending a narrow majority at Glasgow, Hillhead, Mr Steel may have to carry a heavy burden in national campaigning.

Blow to Alliance, page 2

VAT on gold coins surprises market

By Michael Prest

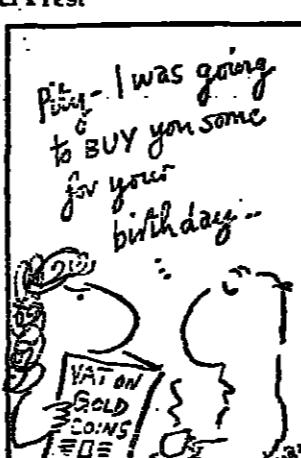
Coin dealers and investors were caught by surprise yesterday when the Customs and Excise announced that buyers of gold coins will have to pay 15 per cent value added tax from this morning. Legal tender investment coins have not been liable to United Kingdom VAT until now.

The new tax, which it is feared will dampen an expanding market among small investors for gold coins, is a response by Customs and Excise to recent alleged frauds. Gold coins are said to have been melted down and sold as bullion, which has carried 15 per cent VAT, at a profit.

A customs spokesman said: "It has been introduced at this stage because of actual and potential fraud." Under EEC law covering harmonization of VAT, a tax would have been imposed on coins in the United Kingdom by the beginning of next year, the spokesman said.

Dealing in coins was suspended yesterday while the market digested the news. It was stressed, however, that private holders of coins bought before the new tax should not assume that they can sell their holdings automatically for 15 per cent more. One ounce Krugerrands were being quoted at about £331 or £185.50 each when business stopped.

The best guess is that the market will open slightly higher today, depending on how the gold price moves.



Severe swelling: the enlarged dome in the crater of Mount St. Helens, Washington state, following the eruption on March 19-20. The new swelling is the darkened area on the upper-left part of the dome.

Carrington stands firm over PLO

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 31

The first day of the controversial visit to Israel by Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, highlighted the deep differences in the European and Israeli approach to the Middle East and Israel's flat rejection of outside criticism of its recent crackdown in the occupied West Bank.

After several hours of talks, British officials made clear tonight that Israeli arguments had done nothing to alter Britain's Middle East policy. This was restated publicly at a dinner in Jerusalem when Lord Carrington called for the association of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in peace negotiations in exchange for its recognition of Israel's right to exist in peace and security.

Only minutes before Lord Carrington began his first meeting with Mr Shamir, he was alerted by a senior aide of a sharp attack just issued by the Israeli Foreign Ministry in response to the European denunciation of Israel's moves against the Palestinians.

The Israeli communiqué stated forcibly: "Israel expresses its dismay regarding the declaration of the European council which ignores the reality in Judea and Samaria, and which disregards completely the incitement to violence initiated by the PLO that led to the recent events."

"This incitement aims at preventing any progress towards a peaceful settlement in the area. Israel sees the declaration as distorting the true facts, and therefore totally rejects it."

■ Tel Aviv: A West Bank villager was injured in a car bomb blast today in the first attempted political murder since the Jordanian Government gave a warning on March 9 that Palestinian Arabs cooperating with Israeli-supported village leagues will be prosecuted for treason, a capital offence (Moshe Brillant writes).

Irene last stand, page 5

Living standards slip as company profits rise

By Frances Williams

Living standards in Britain slipped by 2 per cent last year — the first fall since 1977 — as unemployment continued to climb and pay rises failed to keep up with higher taxes and inflation.

But company profits rose by 10 per cent between 1980 and 1981. Though the main boost came from companies involved with North Sea oil and gas, profits of other companies recovered sharply in the second half of 1981, after slumping in the first half.

This picture for 1981, revealed yesterday by figures from the Central Statistical Office, presents a significant contrast with previous years. Between 1977 and 1980, living standards — measured by the purchasing power of people's incomes after deducting income tax and National Insurance contributions — rose by 17 per cent. Over the same period national output increased by only 2½ per

cent. One result was to put a severe squeeze on company profits.

The 1981 drop in living standards was concentrated in the second quarter of 1981, immediately after the Budget. Since then they have remained virtually unchanged. But both the Treasury and the Bank of England have given a warning of some further fall this year.

Higher oil and gas production and the 25 per cent rise in oil prices in the first half of 1981 produced a 50 per cent increase in profits for North Sea companies over the year to the fourth quarter of 1981.

But, even outside the North Sea sector, profits were up 25 per cent between the first and second halves of the year. They nevertheless remain well below their pre-recession levels.

Chart, page 13

British troops likely to quit Belize early

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 31

Britain is expected to withdraw its troops from the Central American state of Belize — which became independent in September by the end of this year — according to diplomatic sources.

The troops will be replaced by a British military advisory and training team similar, but smaller, to the one which has been in Zimbabwe since that country's independence two years ago.

The withdrawal of the force, comprising about 1,000 combat troops supported by Puma helicopters and a squadron of Harrier jump jets, is to take place much earlier than originally anticipated.

When Belize became independent it was agreed that British troops would remain for as long as was necessary to help defend the fledgling state from Guatemala, which has long-standing territorial claims against Belize.

Although no time limit was fixed, it was thought the troops would remain for several more years, or at least until Guatemala had agreed to recognize Belize's independence.

■ A Foreign Office spokesman said troops would remain until it was appropriate that they should withdraw. No date had been set for such a withdrawal.

If Guatemala was tempted to reactivate its territorial claims, it would draw strong opposition from most other countries in Latin America as well as the United States.

■ The Prince and Princess of Wales will make their first joint visit to the Scilly Isles from April 20 to 23 to meet people connected with the Duchy of Cornwall interests and discuss its policy.

The Duchess of Kent was admitted to the King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, London, yesterday after complaining of abdominal pain. She will undergo tests and is expected to remain there for a few days, a York House spokesman said.

A statement said the pain was connected with a gall

bilader disorder suffered by the Duchess four years ago. Her condition was last night said to be "satisfactory".

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At the Royal Festival Hall:

Thursday 8 April 8.00
Sunday 11 April 3.15

DUKAS The Sorcerer's Apprentice

RAVEL Piano Concerto in G

FAURE Requiem

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, Piano

Marie McLaughlin, Soprano

Gwynn Howell, Bass

London Symphony Chorus

Sergiu Celibidache, Conductor

£17.50 £15.00 £12.00 £10.00

£8.00 £5.00

Royal Insurance Great Conductors, the World Concert Series

Tuesday 13 April 8.00

Recital

BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata in A flat, Op. 26

BEETHOVEN IZ Preludes - 1st Book

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, Piano

Piano Sonata in E flat, Op. 7

DEBUSSY Preludes - 1st Book

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, Piano

£20.00 £16.00 £14.00 £12.00

£8.50 £5.00

Friday 30 April 8.00

Sunday 2 May 3.15

PROKOFIEV Symphony No. 1 'Classical'

DEBUSSY Preludes - 1st Book

Prelude à l'Après-midi d'un Faune

DE FALLA The Three-cornered Hat: Suite No. 2

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 7

Igor Markevitch, Conductor

£7.00 £6.00 £5.00 £4.00 £3.00 £2.00

Sponsored by Peter Shreyer

Tickets: Box Office (01) 928 3191

Russians recall the salad days

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 31

A hundred years ago today Russia's most famous children's writer, who has shaped the childhood world of three generations, was born, and the Soviet Union is honouring the memory of Kornei Chukovsky with films, book exhibitions and special television programmes.

But as the literary world pays homage to the Russians' Vasilii Andersen, whose works have been translated into more than 80 languages and sold over 176 million copies in the Soviet Union alone. Controversy is building up over official plans to evict his family from the peaceful cream-coloured cottage in the writer's colony just outside Moscow where he spent much of his life.

Chukovsky, a close friend of his neighbour Boris Pasternak, lived in Peredelkino until his death at the age of 88, in a house provided by the Soviet Union of Writers. In a test case the union, which rents dachas to its members for the duration of their life, is trying to get back his house, inhabited by his daughter, and the dacha used by the Pasternaks family.

The union, legally on firm ground, says living writers should be entitled to the sought-after privilege of a dacha among the woods of Peredelkino. There is fierce argument over the eviction plans as at least 40 other families of deceased writers might be affected.

Chukovsky's house, badly in need of repair, has been turned into a private museum by his family. The writers union is proposing, as a compromise, a central literary museum in the village collecting memorabilia from all the famous writers who have lived there, with plaques on the walls of d

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Student election forgery

Conservative students standing for election to the National Union of Students' national executive, withdrew yesterday after the union's conference in Blackpool. Heard that forged signatures had been discovered on the nomination forms.

The five, all standing on an anti-NUS platform, voluntarily withdrew from the contest after appearing before the union's election committee. All five, it appears, were unaware the nomination signatures had been forged and the union is taking no action against them.

Mr Barry Wood, a member of the student affairs committee of the Federation of Conservative Students, later said that he had been present when two people filled in the nomination forms in the federation's office in the Conservative Party's headquarters in London.

Mr Timothy Linacre, chairman of the federation, said last night that he would be asking Mr Wood to substantiate his allegations. "Whoever did this has absolutely no support from the FCS," he said.

Highgrove report denied

Buckingham Palace denied yesterday a newspaper report that the Prince and Princess of Wales planned to sell their house at Highgrove, Gloucestershire, and buy Belton House, the Lincolnshire stately home of Lord Brownlow.

The report, in the *Daily Mail* yesterday, said trustees for Lord Brownlow had accepted in principle an offer of between £2.5m and £3m for the house, set in 600 acres of parkland. Lord Brownlow also described the report as completely untrue.

Former England footballer dies

A former England and Queens Park Rangers full-back, was found dead on Tuesday at the home of his father-in-law at Putney, south London, Scotland Yard said. Mr Clement had sustained stab wounds which appeared to be self-inflicted. A bottle containing what is thought to be weedkiller was nearby.

Mr Clement, who lived at Ewell, Surrey, had been playing for third division Wimbledon. He was known to be depressed about his broken leg.

Belfast ferry start delayed

The Liverpool to Belfast ferry service, which is due to start again today, will be delayed because of technical difficulties.

The Irish Continental Line, which stepped in to reopen England's last passenger sea link with Northern Ireland, confirmed yesterday that it has postponed the starting date to May 1.

The service will create 140 jobs for seamen.

Journalists put up union fees

Subscriptions for members of the National Union of Journalists are to rise by 17.3 per cent next year, delegates to the union's annual conference at Warwick University, voted yesterday. Basic grade subscriptions will rise to £72 a year from £62, while maximum grade subscriptions will go up by £4 to £96.

Strike benefit and victimisation pay last year totalled £195,000, more than £80,000 higher than the previous year.

£120 fine for assault

Joseph Domingo, the son of Plácido Domingo, the opera singer, appeared before magistrates in Northampton yesterday and admitted assaulting his girl friend, Domingo, aged 23, was fined £120.

Exile for Squires

Dorothy Squires, the singer, aged 58, is to leave Britain to live and work in the United States, because of "nepotism in the theatre and television bureaucracy, and hounding of the press", she said yesterday.

Army depot closes

The Army Central Ordnance Depot at Chilwell, Nottinghamshire closed yesterday after 67 years.

Cabinet to discuss Prior plan on Ulster today

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Cabinet will discuss the political initiative for Northern Ireland today and, if it is approved, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is expected to unveil what he describes as "flexible, workable, and novel" proposals to the House of Commons next week.

Yesterday the proposals, denounced as unworkable by Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, were the main topic of discussion at a 90-minute meeting in London between Mr Prior and Mr Gerard Collins, the republic's foreign affairs minister. Mr Prior defended his proposals at the meeting, at which the border, security, and economic cooperation were also discussed.

Later in Belfast, Mr Prior said: "I am not prepared to talk about failure because this is so important for the whole future of the United Kingdom as well as the people of Northern Ireland that we cannot afford to let it fail. We have all got to work to make it a success."

His proposals for a 78-seat assembly will give that body some powers on debate and legislation, as well as allowing it to form committees that can inquire and suggest policies. It is separate from the other arrangement which could lead to an assembly having executive power, which would come about only after approval by a 70 per cent weighted majority.

Mr Prior said that this "staged" assembly gave an initial opportunity for powers similar to an ordinary legislature.

The minority had to acknowledge the strength of Unionist tradition and the reality that all-Ireland constitutional structures were not feasible without broad support.

Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, said in a statement after his party's meeting with Mr Prior that the SDLP had been told that the White Paper would give explicit and generous recognition to the Irish identity in the Prime Minister.

Even though Fine Gael hold the Dublin, West seat, the power to decide when a by-election is held rests with Mr Haughey. With Fine Gael demoralized, and without an obvious candidate for the seat, Mr Haughey might press home his advantage by calling a snap by-election. His party has a strong candidate in Mrs Eileen Lemass.

Northern Ireland. That would be to a far greater extent than before, he added. However the party still believes that Mr Prior's proposals are unworkable.

In Dublin Mr Haughey's governing Fianna Fail Party is considered favourite to win the by-election caused by the resignation of Mr Richard Burke, a leading Fine Gael politician, who has accepted Mr Haughey's offer of a post as an EEC commissioner.

Mr Burke's decision to resign his Dublin, West seat and quit Fine Gael comes after a week of intense manoeuvring. At first it had seemed that Mr Haughey's bold move had rebounded, with Mr Burke declining the offer.

Mr Haughey's "political coup" has immediately given him and advantage, with Dr Garret Fitzgerald's party angry and demoralized.

Fine Gael are reduced to 62 seats and Fianna Fail is poised, just three weeks after returning to power, to reduce its dependence for a majority on Independents to one, the reliable Mr Neil Blaney, independent Fianna Fail deputy for Donegal, North East, and an old colleague of the Prime Minister.

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Local poll blow to alliance

By Our Political Editor

The Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance has been doing relatively badly — and the SDP particularly badly — in recent local by-elections.

Evidence published in this week's *New Statesman* matches the evidence of opinion polls that support for the alliance, Labour, and the Conservatives is now about equal, and shows that the familiar squeeze exerted by Labour and Conservative parties on any third party under the first-past-the-post system of voting is taking its toll particularly of SDP candidates.

In by-election contests over seven weeks, from

February 11 to March 25, the day of the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election, Liberal candidates won nearly half the seats they fought — 16 out of 36; SDP candidates fought 23 and won only 3.

An analysis of the results by Mr Peter Kellner shows that the alliance is losing support in the areas where it most needs it, with the

Local by-elections, Feb 11 to March 25.

Party Seats Lost Gains Seats Held now

C 34 15 6 25

LD 15 4 2 14 16

SDP 11 7 1 5

Others 1 1 1 1

Labour vote recovering in Conservative-held territory and vice versa.

Of the 104,000 votes cast in three-cornered fights, out of a total of 61 by-elections, the alliance polled 37 per cent, Conservatives 35 per cent and Labour 26 per cent.

Allowing for a preponderance of Conservative-held seats, that is equivalent to a registered charity.

The Mencap Unity Trust and City Foundation, which was authorized on Wednesday by the Department of Trade, is a joint venture by the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults and the City.

People buy units in the ordinary way and then convert the income from them for a period of more than three years to the City Foundation.

The foundation distributes the money to help the mentally handicapped. Because charities are exempt from tax on investment income the foundation will receive the gross amount of contributed sums.

Mr Brian Rix, the former actor who is secretary general of MENCAP, said yesterday that the idea for the unit trust had its origins in a chance meeting on a train with Mr Michael Wynne-Parker, an investment manager.

Mr Malcolm Southgate, British Rail's director of operations, said: "It will be a huge operation involving a great deal of planning."

Awayday tickets, normally available only for travel on one day, will be valid for 70 hours to places visited by the Pope.

The London Midland region is running about 750 extra trains to venues at Wembley, Liverpool, Coventry and Manchester; Western Region 200 extra trains for 100,000 people going to Cardiff; Eastern Region 120 trains for the visit to York and Scotland; and Southern Region are running extra services to cope with the other visits and those to Canterbury and Crystal Palace.

British Rail said: "Not since the evacuation of towns and cities during the last war has such an operation been undertaken."

The Pope and his entourage will be accompanied by mobile intensive care units throughout his visit. Dr Hugh Clink, the consultant haematologist in charge of health arrangements for the visit, said yesterday.

The units, which transport critically ill patients to hospital, are equipped with oxygen and anaesthetics as well as resuscitation equipment. Emergency helicopters will also be on standby where possible.

The police estimate that there will be three times as many people, about 200,000, outside Wembley Stadium as inside when the Pope celebrates Mass there on May 29.

The Greater London Council stadium authorities, and the police have agreed that just over 79,000 people may be inside the stadium. That is about 20,000 fewer than a normal sports crowd because they will be there for much longer and will include more women and children.

Countryman, formed in 1978 to examine allegations surrounding three big armed robberies in London, has faced claims of obstruction and counter-claims of gullibility. Its work in the Metropolitan Police was wound up last year by Scotland Yard, but investigations are continuing into the City of London police.

Four of the detectives were acquitted by a jury last week at the end of a seven-week trial and yesterday the Crown offered no evidence against Det. Constable Derek Frederick Watts, aged 42, when his trial began.

This was the fourth important prosecution in which Countryman, which has cost at least £2m, has failed to gain a conviction against London policemen, but Judge Lymberry com-

mended the work of Countryman officers, including Det. Chief Supt Dennis Barry and Det. Chief Supt Stephen Whithy, of Dorset, and Det. Supt Graham Murdoch, of Gloucester.

The officers, the judge said, had been faced with a distasteful, prolonged, and difficult task. It had brought upon them "not informed criticism but nasty little comments and innuendoes as to their abilities to understand the problems of policing London."

Anyone who thought the standards of London police officers should be different from those of policemen anywhere else "should examine their consciences", Judge Lymberry, QC, said at the end of a series of Countryman cases in which five detectives were cleared of "framing" two men with an armed robbery in west London in 1977.

The criticism proved to be born of resentment or from other unworthy origins. The Countryman officers were to be commended for their integrity, industry, and tenacity.

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Sir Steuart returns

Lieutenant-General Sir Steuart Pringle, who had his right leg amputated below the knee in October after his car was blown up by an IRA bomb, returned to his desk at the Ministry of Defence on London yesterday (The Press Association reports).

The Commandant General of the Royal Marines who is 53, told reporters: "I am fine. As far as my job goes I plan to lead a normal life as from here on."

But Sir Steuart, who still uses crutches, said he had

Family to call for drug inquiry

By Michael Horsnell

The death of a man aged 70 a few days after his doctor prescribed a sleeping pill, banned in the Netherlands, has led to doubts among his family about its safety and a call from them for its withdrawal from sale in Britain.

Tomorrow Dr Charles Clark, the Essex Coroner, will be asked to recommend an inquiry into the drug Halcion when he holds an inquest on Mr Fred Hemmingway, of Clacton, Essex.

They are the crown jewels of conservation: and some scientists, at least, were bemused at the nearly total absence of fauna when in 1978 the specialist unit that compiles the books on animals moved from IUCN headquarters near Geneva to new offices at Cambridge University.

With that move the international conservation establishment in effect passed judgment that Britain was best in terms of the academic resources at the disposal of the scholars, and completed a process that had begun in 1973 when the Threatened Plants Committee, compilers of the Plant Red Data Book, set up offices at Kew Gardens.

The first important publication from the new animal unit has just been released. It is part I of the *Mammal Red Data Book*, updated from 1978, and covering 145 taxa in the Americas, Australia, New Zealand, and New Guinea.

Part II, on Africa, is to be published next year, and part III, on Europe and Asia, by 1985. Volumes on reptiles and invertebrates are imminent.

The Red Data Books used to be compiled in looseleaf binders. That system has changed in favour of one fat, bound volume at a time because it was felt that the convenience offered by the looseleaf format for updating (22 mammal entries are already slightly out of date) was more than offset by the books' unwieldy bulk and the tendency of the pages to get lost or stolen.

The new format also reflects "accelerating threats to species survival", Jane Thornback, one of the compilers, writes, especially damage to habitats. The printed volumes are at best a reflection and a small sampling of an ever-increasing computerized data base.

In addition to habitat loss, the different mammalian groups suffer different threats: Australian marsupials lose in competition for food with rabbits or cattle; marsupials in New Guinea, by contrast, tend to be overhunted as game. Insectivores generally have small ranges, easily obliterated by agriculture or disturbed by tourism, while primates are captured for sale as pets, to zoos or for medical research.

Carnivores, of course, are often hunted for their skins; that was in part the fate of the red wolf of the south-eastern United States, which, while officially listed as endangered rather than extinct, has been declared biologically extinct because virtually all the few animals surviving out of captivity are hybrids. The red wolf is, happily, the nearest example of a new extinction in the book. Eleven previous listings have been removed because they have been reclassified, or declared as extinct.

Source: *The IUCN Manual Red Data Book, Part I*. Compiled by Jane Thornback and Martin Jenkins. (Conservation Monitoring Centre, 219 Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL; £10).

Senior post on Arts Council for Miss Laski

By Christopher Warman
Arts Correspondent

Marghanita Laski, the novelist, critic, and broadcaster, has been appointed vice-chairman of the Arts Council. It was announced yesterday.

She succeeds Dr Richard Hoggart, whose term of office ended last December. He has said that political pressure from the Government was the reason for the decision not to reappoint him as a member of the council.

The decision to appoint a new vice-chairman was delayed until a new chairman of the council to succeed Mr Kenneth Robinson, whose term of office ended yesterday, had been appointed.

It was announced in February that Sir William Rees-Mogg, vice-chairman of the BBC and a former editor to the *Times*, was to be the new chairman.

Miss Laski has been a member of the Council since 1979.

Overseas selling prices:

Austria Sch 22; Bahrain BD 0.65;

Benefits curb on jobless students vexes ministers

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Ministers in three government departments are considering ways of reversing a ruling made by one civil servant, which strictly curbs the number of hours the unemployed can spend on further education courses without losing supplementary benefit.

The Supplementary Benefit (Conditions of Entitlement) Regulations, 1981, state that some unemployed people who take part-time courses at school or college for not more than 21 hours a week may be entitled to continue drawing benefit.

But an assistant secretary in the Department of Health and Social Security, Mr Alan Palmer, the Chief Supplementary Benefit Officer, has ruled recently that time spent on meal breaks and in private study must be included in the 21 hours.

To the intense embarrassment of ministers in Mr Palmer's department, the Department of Education and Science, and the Department of Employment, Mr Palmer has this month issued a 35p booklet, *Guidance to Supplementary Benefit Officers*, giving his independent legal interpretation of last year's statutory instrument.

He says: "Do not limit the hours of attendance at the course to hours of direct classroom, workshop or field instruction, but include private study (on or off the college or school premises, e.g., homework) and lunch breaks."

"For example, a claimant who is at college from 9 am to 4 pm two days a week and is expected to do a further seven hours' private study is attending his course for 21 hours a week."

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security, said yesterday that that had led to charges that the department was employing "homework

Help for claimants sought

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

More advice for social security claimants and equal treatment for the unemployed in claiming supplementary benefits were recommended by a government-appointed committee yesterday.

The fact that the unemployed cannot, after a year, claim long-term supplementary benefit of £10 a week more than the short-term rate was condemned as wholly unjust.

The Social Security Advisory Committee, which replaced the Supplementary Benefits Commission, recommended increases of £680m on a spending bill for social security of £28,000m.

Some of its recommendations, made to the Government last October but published for the first time yesterday, have been adopted and were incorporated in the Budget. In particular, the Government accepted the demand that the 2 per cent shortfall in benefits in November, 1981, should be made good this year and also

Architecture



The flats designed by John Melvin in Blackstock Road, north London.

Design gives flats the villa look

By Charles McKean

Architects now acknowledge that the task of designing flats does not mean that they have to look like flats, whatever the inherent quality of a flat may be held to be. The fact that people live in flats, so the argument goes, does not in any way lessen their need or desire to feel at home. So what do people mean by home?

The revivalists are budding with spring, with their plastic thatch and rent-a-swallow for the eaves. But — even in London — such an image is perhaps too ersatz. Furthermore, where the architect has looked beyond the plastic thatch, the notion of "home" is difficult to pinpoint. Purists like Berthold Lubetkin, the Royal Gold Medal winner, would hold that such notions are (or were) "fun-gus" and that the building form would arise from a combination of such elements as the user's requirements, the location of the building, the inspiration of the architect and the requirements of geometry.

An easy standpoint for somebody who ceased practice over 30 years ago:

Asian young meet job bias, survey shows

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Twice as many Asian school-leavers in Bradford, West Yorkshire, fail to get jobs as white school-leavers in the city, although their educational qualifications are about the same and in some cases better, according to research sponsored by the EEC and the Department of Education and Science, which is published today. The research shows that 12 months after leaving school in 1980, 72 per cent of Asians were still without a real job, compared with 36 per cent of all school-leavers aged 16 in

the city.

Of the Asian school-leavers, 41 per cent were unemployed, and a further 31 per cent were on Manpower Services Commission Youth Opportunities or work experience programmes, compared with 19 per cent and 14 per cent respectively among Bradford school-leavers as a whole. A survey by Bradford City Council of educational qualifications of school-leavers in 1979 showed that 31 per cent of ethnic minority pupils (most of whom are Asian) obtained at least one O level with grade C or better, compared with 33 per cent of whites; a further 49 per cent obtained at least one CSE qualification, compared with 36 per cent of whites.

Mr Douglas Jones, an economist at Thames Polytechnic, and Mr Michael Campbell, an economist at Leeds Polytechnic, who carried out the research, conclude that only skin colour, and the assumption that Asians have certain characteristics which fit them only for certain kinds of work could explain why Asian school-leavers fare so badly in the labour market.

A report published yesterday by Cheshire County Council calls on employers to discriminate positively in favour of young people, to stop the rapid increase in youth unemployment.

John Manning



Placard-waving children among mothers and teachers at yesterday's rally.

Parents join striking teacher's lobby

As the strike by the National Union of Teachers in the London borough of Barking neared the end of its sixth week, an estimated 3,000 teachers, parents, children and councillors marched from Tower Hill to Westminster yesterday to lobby MPs as a further protest against the planned teacher redundancies in the borough.

(Our Education Correspondent writes.) Barking teaching force of 1,400 by 159 teaching staff last September and April next year. Sixty jobs have gone and now appear inevitable compulsory redundancies. The cuts will lead to a deterioration in the pupil-teacher ratio of 17.6:1, which is about average for greater London.

The NUT, which has 900 members in the borough, says that the authority's plans mean that the number of secondary school teachers will be cut by 17 per cent over the 18-month period while the number of secondary school pupils is expected to fall by only 7 per cent, and that the number of primary school pupils is expected to fall by only 5 per cent.

The education of thousands of pupils has been disrupted for half the spring term by the strike, and 10 schools are closed. The strike is costing the union £100,000 a week in strike pay.

MP moves to deter young glue-sniffers

By David Hewson

Glue manufacturers will be forced to add a foul-smelling chemical to their products to deter glue-sniffers if an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill, tabled by Mr Allan Roberts, Labour MP for Bootle, becomes law.

Mr Roberts said yesterday that he had tabled the clause because he was convinced that glue-sniffing among teenagers was a growing problem.

According to Mrs Eve Merrill, a social worker whose book on glue sniffing was published yesterday, the problem had been exaggerated to some extent by the media. All the evidence indicates that glue sniffing for the majority of youngsters is simply a passing phase.

The book claims that there has been no evidence to indicate that glue-sniffing carries any serious health risk, although its effects, which are similar to drunkenness, can lead to accidents and asphyxiation through the inhaling of vomit while the user is unconscious.

Glue-sniffing, by Eve Merrill (Priority Educational Programmes for Action and Research; £3.50).

Illegal art exports worry

By Frances Gibb

The Government's Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, is concerned about illegal exports by foreign visitors who are ignorant of the export rules.

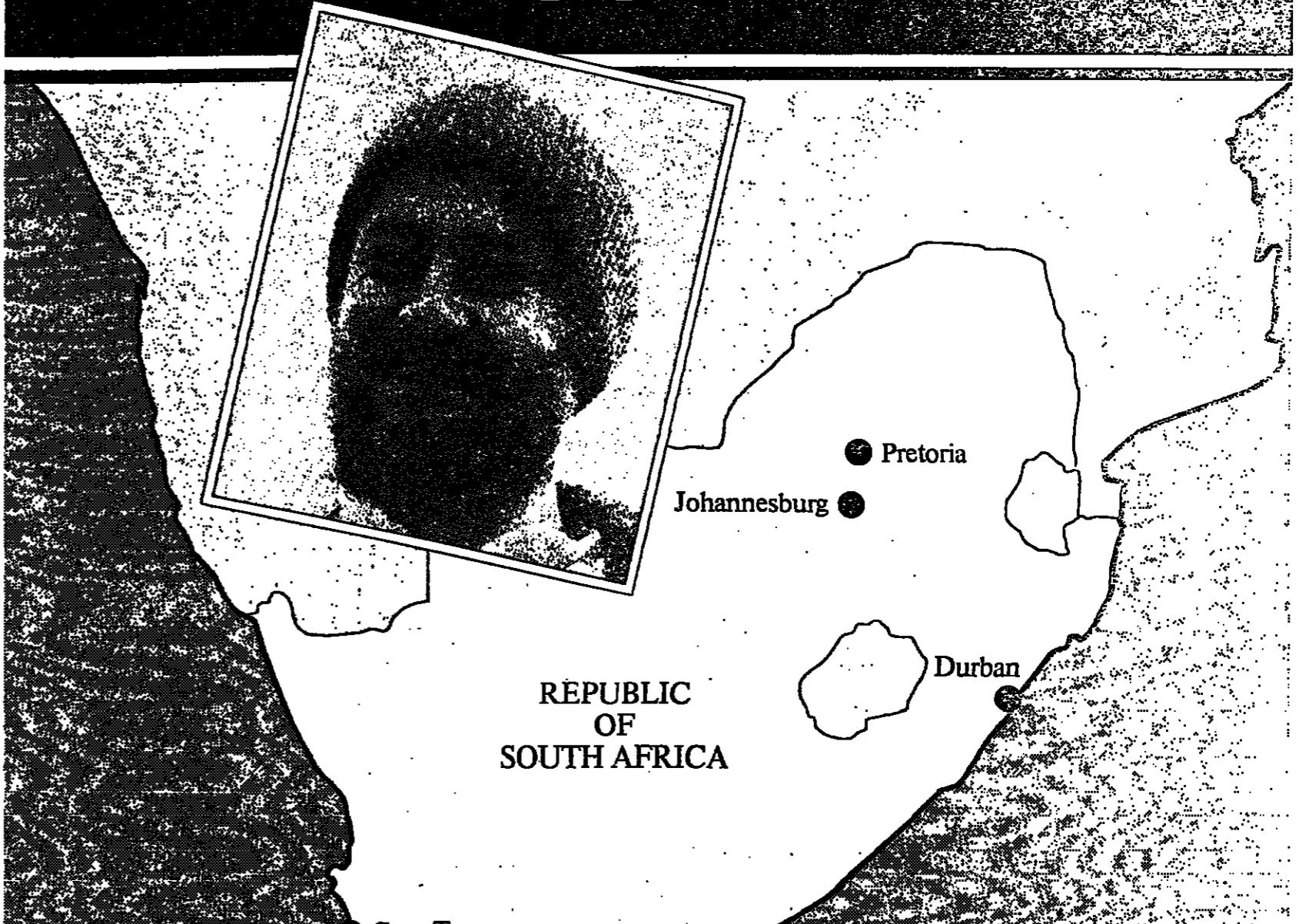
According to the March bulletin of the Fine Art Trade Guild, the committee has asked for the help of the art dealers if it might put up posters on the subject for foreign visitors, but the BAA declined on the ground that there was a more urgent need for other information to be posted.

Concern has been expressed in particular by the British Council for Archaeology after the advertising in the United States of "treasure trove" package holidays, some in Britain.

Mr Hugh Leggatt, secretary of Heritage in Danger, said yesterday that he believed any such losses were minimal.

Mr Leggatt added that dealers had a financial incentive to ensure that the rules were observed since value added tax was not levied on works of art where export could be proved.

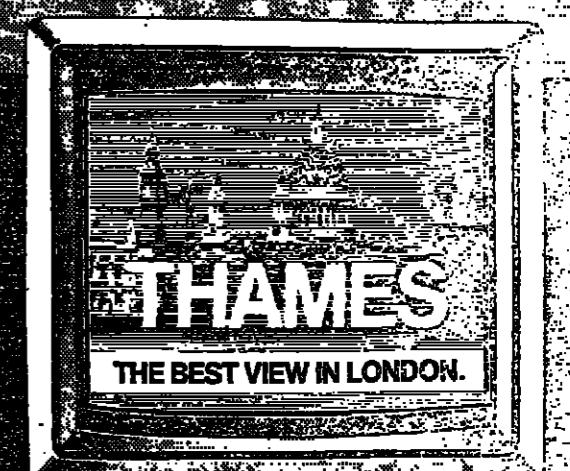
After 70 days in a South African prison, Neil Aggett died.



9.30 TONIGHT: "TV EYE" examines the controversy surrounding the death of white trade union leader Dr. Neil Aggett.

In a country where more than 50 black South Africans have already died in custody, the Authorities claim that Aggett committed suicide.

His family and supporters refuse to accept he could have killed himself.



PARLIAMENT March 31 1982

PM seeks three-pronged solution to EEC budget

EEC SUMMIT

The heads of government of the member states of the European Community agreed at their European Council meeting in Brussels on Monday and Tuesday that all had the same interest in combating unemployment and restoring economic growth while preserving monetary stability and ensuring the competitiveness of their economies. Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said when reporting to the House of Commons on the meeting.

Mrs Thatcher said: The Council expressed its concern at the level of productive investment in Europe, especially in the industry of the future, and agreed that the Community and the member states would take whatever steps were open to them to improve that level, while recognizing that an increase in investment would mean a reduction in consumption.

In particular, we agreed that particular stress on the need to complete the Common Market in the services sector. We have made disappointingly little headway with the liberalization of services such as insurance and air transport.

We also discussed the role that the Community can play in the development of information technology and the vital contribution that small businesses can make to the provision of new jobs.

In particular, we agreed that the real interest rates in the international markets, combined with inadequate economic activity, was leading to a significant reduction in productive investment and made unemployment worse because of the squeeze on company liquidity and profits.

The Council urged Japan to open its market so as to integrate it more fully into international trade. We also urged Japan to follow an economic, commercial monetary and exchange rate policy which was more compatible with the balance of responsibilities to be borne by the whole of the industrialized world, thereby contributing to economic recovery.

On youth unemployment which was a matter of special concern, we agreed that each member state would strive to ensure over the next five years that all young persons entering the labour market for the first time would receive vocational training or initial work experience.

In our discussion of external policies, the Council looked forward to the Versailles economic summit in June. We agreed that our aim at that summit should be to encourage increased cooperation between the major industrial countries.

Luce delays his trip to Mexico

OVERSEAS

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, is to visit Mexico soon for an exchange of views about the Central American situation. Mr Luce was due to leave tonight (Wednesday) but the visit had been temporarily postponed, he said.

Asked for a statement on the situation in El Salvador, Mr Luce said: The results of the elections are not yet final. No one group appears to have an overall majority. The British Government takes the view that if El Salvador is to achieve peace and stability, there is a need for peaceful change and full respect for human rights and further progress on social and economic reform.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Edge Hill, L): In view of the legitimate concern of the British Government that there should be a concerted response to Poland, Argentina and the Middle East, why does it not take the same view on its response to Central American problems?

Why did it fall out of line in the vote in the United Nations on November 16 on human rights and democracy in the question of observers?

Mr Luce: It is right and important that members of the European Community should continue to exchange views about central Latin America and this will become increasingly important in the future.

What matters if peace and stability are to be achieved is for important nations like Mexico, Venezuela and others, as well as democratic nations like Costa Rica and Honduras, should be able to play their role.

They have important views to express. It is important for us to keep in touch with them.

Mr Bowen Wells (Hertford and Stevenage, C): I congratulate the minister on the wisdom of

sending by the decision to send observers so that we may be informed of the nature and outcome of the elections.

Will he confirm that the Government will support a negotiated settlement with all interested parties?

Mr Luce: We do all we can to foster respect for peaceful change and human rights. It was due to leave for Mexico tonight for talks with the Mexican Government about that part of the world. I have decided temporarily to postpone my visit because it would be helpful for us to have an exchange.

It would be wise to wait until the observers sent to the elections in El Salvador had presented their report before commenting on the election, Mr Luce stated during other exchanges.

Frank Alman (Salford, East, Lab): Does the British Government intend to recognize

the right wing extremists now in the saddle in El Salvador?

Mr Luce: We have not yet had the report from the two observers who will be reporting this week. Their report will be published. I think it would be sensible to read that report before we draw any conclusions.

That is precisely why they were sent there to see whether or not these elections were a valid test of opinion.

We should be cautious — because the first evidence is that a million people voted before the election. In the meantime we know the figures suggest something like 60 per cent of the electorate have voted.

If Mr Healey believed in the use of the ballot box surely he ought to be encouraging and supporting that process rather

than encouraging those who used the gun to intimidate.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury, St Edmunds, C): Those of us who visited El Salvador find it hard to arrive at the same sort of certainty as Mr Healey. Whatever the result of the election, the main attack on human rights has come from those who sought to intimidate people going to the ballot boxes.

We have the greatest admiration for the courage of the El Salvadoran people who risked their lives in order to prosecute and elect by the ballot and not by the bullet.

Mr Luce: I agree.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield Heeley, Lab): Not all of us who went to El Salvador entirely share Mr Griffiths' views. The election techniques allow police in El Salvador to identify those who voted and those who did not. Since those who did not appear to be voting were accused of a crime, punishment may follow.

Mr Luce: When the report is published it will be made available to the House, the press and the public. We shall be able to study in great detail what the observers have to say. Let us wait and see what they have to say.

Mr Healey: The minister has given a figure of those voting which is well under half of those of electoral age. Those who did not vote have broken the law in El Salvador. In 60 per cent chose to break the law rather than vote unless they had been forced into emigration by the actions of the previous government.

The majority of those who voted for parties of the extreme right were led by a man who has boasted President Duarte as a tool of communism. Is that the view of the Minister of State?

Mr Luce: That is a rather unconstructive way in which to approach this problem. I am surprised by his attitude. Let us wait and see what the observers have to say. In the meantime we know the figures suggest something like 60 per cent of the electorate have voted.

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Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, C): The Foreign Secretary might suggest that if they are serious about improving relations between the UK and Israel, they might desist from using the likeability of pro-Zionist Jews who have murdered British subjects on their stamps.

Mr Hurd: I am not sure if this point will come up, but I have a good deal of sympathy with that view.

Mr Roland Moyle (Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, Lab): Most Arabs believe Israel are on the point of annexing the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Will the Foreign Secretary associate himself with the EEC's position on this matter and say that we are Israel thinking of such annexation we would regard such a move as dangerous and preclusive to a peaceful settlement in the Middle East?

Mr Hurd: Annexation of the West Bank would be very dangerous, but we have no evidence that it is being contemplated.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Bury, C): Disturbances on the West Bank have been instigated and organized by the PLO precisely because the Israeli Government was beginning to make headway with moderate Palestinian leaders.

Mr Hurd: I would advise him not to accept such a simple explanation. What is happening is the outcome of one incident feeding on another and you have escalation and repression as a consequence of a regime of military occupation.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath, C): Asked during the visit to Israel by the Foreign Secretary, will he tell the Israeli authorities that whatever injustices the people have suffered in previous years, the way they established their colonial occupied Arab land and their dictatorial policy on the West Bank, only exacerbates tensions against the long-term interests of Israel?

Mr Hurd: We have made a statement deplored the present activities in the West Bank and there was a statement by the

Government.

Mr Atkins: Does not the very large turnout in El Salvador in favour of the

right wing extremists now in the saddle in El Salvador?

Mr Luce: We have not yet had the report from the two observers who will be reporting this week. Their report will be published. I think it would be sensible to read that report before we draw any conclusions.

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Rhys Williams: What reason?

Spearing: Client state

This was not the moment for a relatively brief discussion in the light of the recent suggestions put forward by M Timmins and M Thorn. We and most other member states were prepared to accept these proposals as a basis for negotiation.

I emphasized the need for a solution to the United Kingdom's problem which gave us a fair scale of compensation, which was sufficiently flexible to take account of either an improvement or a deterioration in the underlying situation and which would last for a substantial period.

This was a very busy Council in its discussions of both Community affairs and of international problems. While we were all both disappointed and surprised at the attitude of the French Government on the Versailles economic summit.

We believe in a world suffering from unemployment with rising unemployment on both sides of the Atlantic that it would be of great advantage to the world if the Versailles economic summit could be turned into a success.

It would be a disaster for the world if nothing more is offered at the end of the economic summit than is offered by the European Council.

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition: She referred to her capacity for stubbornness. We recognize that she has that capacity. As long as she is stubborn in defence of the legitimate interests of the British people, we will have to pay to Europe, but for our negotiations with the European Council.

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Whitelaw attack on GLC chief's police criticism

By Richard Evans

Mr William Whitelaw yesterday rebuked in the strongest terms the leader of the Greater London Council and its police committee chairman for their outspoken attacks on the capital's police force.

The Home Secretary said he strongly deplored the repeated criticism levelled by Mr Kenneth Livingstone at the appointment of Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner designate, six months before he was due to take up the post.

During a 70-minute meeting with a GLC police committee delegation headed by Mr Paul Boateng, the committee chairman, Mr Whitelaw said he found it astonishing that the head of the GLC should see fit to attack an appointment which was undoubtedly the most demanding operational job in the police service.

Sir Kenneth Newman was entitled to look to leaders of the community for their good will and support in the difficult task that he faced.

Mr Whitelaw told Mr Boateng he strongly objected to his recent comments about "institutionalized racism" in the Metropolitan Police. He said he found it interesting that the GLC was apparently ready to go along with the great majority of Lord Scarman's recommendations, but was prepared to ignore Lord Scarman's finding that the direction and policies of the police were not racist.

The police committee had expressed a contrary view without producing any evidence, he added.

The tough stance displayed by Mr Whitelaw became apparent at the start of the meeting, which was held at the GLC's request to discuss the Scarman report and policing policies for London.

He said that before the delegation made its points he wished it to be clear that he strongly resented the much publicized comments made by Mr Livingstone.

The Home Secretary then listened to the arguments put forward, but gave no guarantees or promises. It seems unlikely that there will be a

Letters, page 11

200,000 CB radio sets licensed

Apartheid row over Eisteddfod

By Kenneth Gosling

More than 200,000 licences for citizens' band radio, which became legal last November, had been sold over post office counters by mid-March. There is no sign of the rate of sale, between 7,000 and 8,000 a week abating. Licences cost £10 each.

Many more CB sets are still being used illegally on the AM frequency; the Government is considering whether to make it an offence to sell AM sets as well as to use them.

The Consumers' Association has been monitoring members' comments on CB and today publishes the results in a *Which?* report.

Drawbacks for users, who can only transmit legally using FM (frequency modulation), include bad language, found to be especially worrying to members with children; children using them as toys, blocking channels and annoying other people; and interference from illegal high-powered transmitters in Britain or abroad.

The association warns users against relying on CB in an emergency: although some voluntary organizations listen for distress calls, the official rescue services do not.

Advantages include relieving the tedium of long journeys (although it is also admitted that the thrill of idle chatter to complete strangers can soon wear off); receiving and giving information about road conditions; a good means of contact for the housebound and disabled, particularly in isolated areas; and in the open country, for instance, between farmers and tractor drivers; and a good thing for small businesses where, in confined areas, CB is a cheaper alternative to radiotelephone or radiopaging.

Consistency plea to JPs

By a Staff Reporter

Electricity boards are urging magistrates to be more consistent in their sentencing to help curb the growing problem of electricity thefts in inner cities. Such thefts are costing millions of pounds a year.

In the April issue of *The Magistrate*, journal of the Magistrates' Association, Mr J. W. Evans, deputy chairman of the London Electricity Board, says that in the past few years there have been many more cases of people stealing electricity.

They involve either interference with the meter to cut the recorded use; bypassing the meter; or reconnecting the supplies where meters have been removed.

All methods are dangerous, Mr Evans says, and can cause shocks, burns or fires. But

Ironic last stand of the diehards in the bunker

From Christopher Walker
Yamit, March 31

With the midnight deadline for the voluntary evacuation of all Jewish settlers from the Sinai only hours away, the area today provided little evidence of the mass confrontation with the Army which had been repeatedly threatened by the militants.

At the entrance to the main town of Yamit, a giant white dove had been painted on the sand dunes by a local Israeli artist who explained that its purpose was to convey a message of peace to the Egyptians. Close by, two Israeli soldiers lay stripped to the waist, basking in the spring sunshine.

He said London would be best served by having its own police authority made up of elected representatives, but said Mr Whitelaw "was adamant that the present constitutional arrangements are not ones that are going to be changed and he would remain the police authority".

Mr Boateng said the recent tabulation of crime statistics by race should not be repeated and a wholly independent police complaints procedure should be established. He urged Mr Whitelaw not to be panicked by Conservative backbenchers into repeating the "saturation" policing seen in Brixton last year.

London police to screen for bias

□ The Metropolitan Police is to introduce an experimental battery of tests designed to help in weeding out recruits with extreme attitudes, including racial bias. (our Political Correspondent writes).

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, feels that it would be premature to disclose full details of the tests because of the experimental nature of the vetting procedures.

But he has indicated in a letter to Mr John Tilley, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, that Lord Scarman's recommendation on race bias in the police service is being pursued.

Lord Scarman disclosed in his report on the Brixton disorders that the Metropolitan Police was exploring, with American assistance, whether attitude screening can be put on a more systematic, scientific basis".

Letters, page 11



**WE CHOSE SAN FELIPE,
NOT MILTON KEYNES,
FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS
BECAUSE OF THE SUN, WOMEN,
DANCING IN THE STREETS,
BRIBERY CORRUPTION TEQUILA
AND THE LICENCING HOURS**

CONTACT BOB THE GIGGASABEL FANDANGO PLAZA DE TULARE, SAN FELIPE

Yugoslavia faces the cost of Kosovo

From Our Correspondent
Belgrade, March 31

Tomorrow is the first anniversary of violent demonstrations in Kosovo in which nine died, but Yugoslavia appears no nearer to solving the problems raised by Albanian nationalism.

More than 400 ethnic

Albanians have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment and another 100 are awaiting trial since the eruption of nationalist feelings shook the country and confronted the Government with an assertive nationalism.

A report compiled by the

federal Government and

submitted for parliamentary debate also disclosed that in the past year more than 1,200

were given light sentences

for disturbing the peace and

that the police had uncovered

40 illegal organizations with a

membership of 600, allegedly

aided from Albanian organiza-

tions outside the country.

The riots, which started in

March apparently over non-

political grievance among

students in a university

canteen, increased in viol-

ence. Attacks also grew

against Yugoslav institutions

and representatives in the

West, leaving seven Yugoslavs dead and 20 injured, the report said.

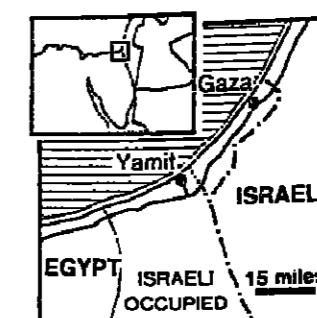
The figures illustrate that

nationalism has now spread

widely and outside the Kosov-

vo region, wherever there are

Albanian communities.



refused — apparently fearful because Rabbi Kahane believes that the Israelis are intent on putting him back into administrative detention for a second time.

The scene took on an atmosphere of farce as a reporter from the Washington Post shouted through the grille, which provides the only entrance to the shelter the door having been welded: "If you are scared of the soldiers arrive?" He did not receive a reply.

As with much of the resistance to the withdrawal, the fortifications and threats surrounding Rabbi Kahane's "Masada" have been staged largely for the benefit of television cameras.

Exact calculation of numbers who will stay on tomorrow to resist the troops is impossible, because for propaganda purposes the militants have from the outset deliberately overestimated their support. But no observer today was prepared to put the total at more than a few hundred, and many of those were expected to pack up before midnight.

Battle of budget darkens EEC farm price talks

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 31

European agriculture ministers this morning began the annual ritual of a three-day session to agree farm prices for the year ahead. They were well aware that whatever they decided could not take effect unless there were early agreement on the size of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget.

Mr Peter Walker, the British minister, made it quite clear from the outset that "there was no question" of agreeing a price increase without a settlement of the budget question. He said it was already accepted in the Community that the agricultural policy reform had to be settled in parallel with the budget question.

Speaking pointedly to the French, who are striving desperately to uncover the two subjects, he said that the only countries that could ignore the budget question were those who made no contribution to the budget. It would be absurd, he said, if the British Government did not take the budget question into account in fixing prices.

Not to be outdone, Mme Edith Cresson, the French Minister, said that "if there is too much unjustified delay motivated by other than agricultural objectives, then France will draw the necessary conclusions". In her view reform of the common agricultural policy "which is necessary" should not be done purely on budget grounds.

Mme Cresson, who yesterday accused the British Government of "a kind of terrorism" in holding up a price settlement until the budget question was settled, said that reform had to take social aspects into account.

To make sure that she was not tempted in any way to sell out the interests of French farmers a delegation of French Communist Parliamentarians was following the Luxembourg negotiations. They handed in

a letter to the Council presidency urging it "not to give in to Great Britain's blackmail and to refuse to subordinate agricultural price fixing to settlement of the British budget question".

The two ministers were doing no more than echoing the views of their respective leaders at the end of the European summit the previous day. Then Mrs Margaret Thatcher had said the chances of an agreed agricultural price increase package was "very slight".

British officials preparing for the EEC foreign ministers' meeting in Luxembourg on Saturday are probably puzzled by French tactics.

Outright rejection of the compromise formula by President Mitterrand has placed France in isolation from the other nine countries, all of whom are showing signs of being heavily sick of the whole negotiation.

This can only count against France when the negotiations start especially as Britain is pledged to try to negotiate on the basis of the formula rejected by France.

There is no reason, however, for the farm price negotiations to come to a halt. Mr Walker intends to use the three days to fight against Commission proposals for a revaluation of the green pound — which could cut British farmers' incomes — and to resist other Commission ideas for special treatment for the smaller dairy farmers.

He will also be trying to enlist West German, Belgian, Dutch and Danish support to turn down a double figure percentage increase of prices, as urged by France, Ireland, Greece and Italy. It is remotely possible that a farm price package could be ready by late on Friday, but in those circumstances Britain would refuse final agreement until after the Luxembourg meeting the next day.

Sabre rattling in the South Atlantic

Argentine options limited on Falklands

By David Cross

In spite of the growing tensions between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands, the 2,000 or so islanders have so far limited their anti-Argentine protests to a few pro-British slogans.

In the most notable incident an intruder broke into the Argentine airline office in Port Stanley and covered the Argentine flag with a Union Jack. Before leaving he wrote "sit for tat" in toothpaste on one of the desks in a reference to the incident which provoked the current confrontation — the raising of the Argentine flag on the dependency of South Georgia by a group of Argentine scrap merchants.

Another slogan sprayed outside the airline office reads: "UK-OK".

The airline office has become the focus of protests because it is the most obvious symbol of Argentina's claim to sovereignty of the group of islands which have been a British colony for the past 150 years. Under a communications agreement concluded by the British and Argentine governments in 1971, Buenos Aires runs the only regular air service linking the islands with the outside world.

Each week a Fokker Friendship F27 or F28 aircraft, with seats for about 50 passengers on board, runs a weekly or twice weekly service between Port Stanley and Comodoro Rivadavia on the coast of Argentina. The aircraft also bring mail and regular supplies of fresh fruit to supplement the spartan diets of the islanders.

The 1971 agreement, which also covers educational, medical and customs links between the islands and Argentina, laid down arrangements for Argentines and Falkland Islanders travelling to and from the islands. The Argentine authorities issue them with special travel permits entitling them to free movement both on the mainland and on the islands.

The other main agreement between Britain and Argentina entitles the Argentines to supply petrol and aviation fuel to the Falkland Islands.

Under the terms of the 1974 pact, petroleum supplies are brought from the mainland and stored on tanks on the island.

Otherwise, in spite of efforts by both the British and Argentine Governments to strengthen economic and political links between the islands and Buenos Aires, relations between the islanders and the Argentine remain tenuous.

The occasional Argentine cruise ship calls at Port Stanley during the summer months but leaves after passengers have bought their supply of duty-free whisky, while a few children study at the British school in Cordoba in central Argentina.

With the exception of the few supplies brought in by aircraft, the vast majority of Falkland Islands trade is still with Britain by sea. The cargo ship Aes travels to and from Tilbury four times a year carrying wool to Britain and taking supplies of all kinds to keep the Falkland Islands economy ticking over.

Telephone and telex links also bypass Argentina, being transmitted by satellite via the British Cable and Wireless Company.

If the crisis escalates, there is, therefore, little the Argentines can do to make life unpleasant for the islanders — short of a full-scale invasion.

The most Argentina seems able to do is to stop the mail and prevent passengers from travelling to and from the islands.

In the meantime, according to the daily telex messages which pass between the Falkland Islands and its office in London, the latest confrontation has served to heighten the apprehensions of the islanders towards Britain's defence commitment.

They oppose the system of blocks, East and West

AFP.

Leading article, page 11.

Chirac planned to travel in bombed train coach

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, March 31

M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, might have been one of the victims of the bomb explosion on the Capitole, the Paris-Toulouse express on Monday night.

He was due to take the train, that night, to attend a meeting the next morning of the conseil général of Tulle, in Corrèze, where his constituency is located. He did not take the train because a friend had offered to fly him there on a private aircraft early on Tuesday.

When he does take the Capitole, he always reserves seats in the coach next to the restaurant car, which was where the bomb went off because it is easier both to work and dine in it.

LAND GRAB DENIED BY GREECE

From Mario Modiano, Athens, March 31

The Greek Government today dismissed Turkish charges that it was seizing land owned by ethnic Turks in western Thrace. A spokesman said: "We are simply evicting squatters from public lands: both Christians and Greeks."

Turkey yesterday threatened reprisals against the dwindling Greek minority of Istanbul. If the Greek authorities seized land belonging to members of the Turkish minority living in North-Eastern Greece.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman, protesting against the Greek Government's refusal to open talks on the problem, said: "Recent events in Thrace demonstrate the negative attitude of the Greek Government towards Turks living in Greece."

The French Cabinet today approved the draft of the long-awaited and controversial television law, which is designed to establish the independence of French radio and television from political pressure, without affecting the basic principle of the state monopoly of those media.

It follows about a dozen attempts by previous governments, but it is already clear that the law falls short of the Socialists' claims when they were in Opposition that they would "free television" from state interference.

The Bill amounts only to a broad framework, and marks no clear break with the past; and it leaves unanswered such questions as the autonomy of the different channels, the extent of advertising revenue, and the role of private interests in cable television.

For the past few months the recommendations of a

special government committee, the Moinot committee, which inspired the Bill, and a number of inspired leaks about its contents, have been the subject of much controversy and criticism.

The television journalists' unions consider the Bill does not go far enough and is lacking in vision and inspiration. The Opposition argues that it will merely consolidate state interference, expand bureaucratic control and increase costs, without any improvement in creativity and the quality of programmes.

One of the main features of the Bill is the setting up of a high authority of nine members, obviously inspired by the BBC board of governors, appointed for six years and irremovable — three of them, including the chairman, are appointed by the President of the Republic, three by the President of the Senate, and

three by the President of the Assembly.

They will have the power to appoint the presidents of the television and national radio companies (which are vested in the Cabinet), to allot frequencies, harmonise programmes, and insure respect of the public service character of the media.

French TV Bill disappoints

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 31

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OAU talks boycotted in Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, March 31

The space shuttle Columbia will be loaded on to a converted 747 transporter next Wednesday and flown from White Sands missile range in New Mexico to the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida in preparation for its fourth mission now scheduled for late June.

Comments on the flight of Columbia said the shuttle programme had now shed its science-oriented clothes. Red Star, the army newspaper, said today: "Plans envisage the use of the spacecraft to launch military communications and spy satellites fitted with special equipment to pinpoint launches of ballistic missiles, while the orbiter itself will carry instrumentation to detect the exhaust flames of rocket engines."

The paper accused the United States of cold-shouldering Soviet proposals at the United Nations to ban the placing of weapons in outer space. It said "imperialist warmongers" were seeking to use scientific and technological progress for aggression.

The Russians have not developed a shuttle in their own space programme, which Western analysts say is many years behind the Americans in this respect.

Apart from the fact that the Government is represented by a commissioner in the high authority, and that his powers are loosely defined, the method of appointment of its members does not in itself ensure any real independence of the high authority, unless the Government, breaking with the practices of its predecessors of right and left, really sets out to respect it.

Recent criticism by Socialist Party leaders that government policy was not properly explained by radio and television.

Administrative officials from Aruba, the main town in the area, and Major John Ogle, the local army commander, have had meetings

with Zairean officials in the border town of Aru and Sudanese officials in Kaya, close to the border.

One result of the operation against the rebels has been a new influx of Ugandan refugees into both Zaire and Sudan. Sudanese officials say that 10,000 Ugandans have fled there. They have appealed for international aid to help, to care for them.

After a postponement Mr Kangai told them that if they were not attending the meeting, on the conference floor of a Salisbury hotel, they should go down to the foyer.

They refused and when an official repeated the order the leader of the Senegal delegation said: "I can stand where I want. If you want you can bring your police to take us out."

The boycotters emphasized that they meant no discourtesy to their Zimbabwean hosts.

The girl friend of Dr Neil Aggett (above), the South African trade unionist found dead in his cell at security police headquarters in Johannesburg on February 5, says that anyone who knew him could not believe that he took his own life.

Dr Liz Floyd, who was detained and held in solitary confinement at the same time as Dr Aggett, will be seen on Thames Television's TV Eye tonight. She adds: "I think that any detainee is at risk... I am not surprised that a detainee has died."

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Citizenship revoked

Palm Beach, Florida — An Ukrainian immigrant had his American citizenship revoked after a judge found he had concealed his collaboration with Nazi occupation forces in the Second World War.

It may be the first case of a Nazi collaborator to be stripped of his citizenship since the Second World War.

Since the libe

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Iran says it will not invade Iraq

Hojatoleslam Ali Khamenei, the President of Iran, said on Tehran radio yesterday that Iranian forces would not move into Iraq after their offensive in the Gulf war.

The radio, monitored by the BBC in London, quoted the President as saying the Muslims of Iraq were Iran's brothers. But he said: "Our support for them does not mean that we will take our forces inside Iraqi territory." He emphasized that Iran had no designs on Iraqi territory.

Iraq has disclosed that its forces have withdrawn to new positions after the week-long Iranian offensive.

In Rome, Hojatoleslam Hadi Khosro-Shahi, the Iranian Ambassador to the Vatican, told a press conference that Iran had beaten Iraq. He said Iraqi troops still on Iranian soil would be forced to leave.

Danish wives to keep own names

Copenhagen — Denmark is introducing legislation allowing married women to retain their maiden names (Christopher Follett writes). Unless they expressly wish it, they will no longer automatically assume their husband's surname on marriage.

Parents will also have the right to decide which of their two surnames their children take.

Cape Town

Johannesburg — Sir Leonard Allison, the foreign Office official who is Britain's representative on the five-nation Western "contact group" on Namibia, has arrived in Cape Town to have talks with South African officials and possibly Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister.

Lord Chitnis said that it was impossible to judge the percentage turnout, but he thought it was relatively high. About 12.5 per cent of ballot papers — a high proportion, he said — had been spoiled.

One reason why Brazil has adopted such a non-ideological position in the past decade — being among the first to recognize such regimes as the MPLA in Angola, and withdrawing recognition from the Somozan regime in Nicaragua — while Argentine officers were still supporting it — is that Brazil has the long-term aim of becoming a leader of at least one tendency within the Third World.

Fundamental trade priorities are another reason for Brazil's stance.

Almost half of Brazil's exports now go to the Third World countries in Africa and the rest of Latin America.

Argentina, furthermore, is the fastest growing exports — manufactures — two-thirds go to the Third World.

Argentina, on the other hand, exports only a few commodities to a very few countries, most of them developed.

Recent political events also partly explain the differences. If there was a left-wing assault on the Brazilian state in the early 1970s, it involved only a few dozen guerrillas.

Things have been very different in Argentina, where the death toll in the recent guerrilla years was more than 10,000, and the state came under threat. As a result of the violence with which Argentina destroyed the guerrillas, it became a pariah in the world community, and now its political priority, reiterated during the Foreign Minister's visit here, is unqualified support to United States policy.

General 111, fight against This photograph in 1

General 1

Iran says it
will not
invade Iraq

Mohammed Ali Khan, the President of Iran, said on Iranian radio yesterday that Iranian forces would not move into Iraq after they returned to the Gulf region.

The radio, monitored by the BBC in London, quoted Muslim leaders in Iraq as saying their brothers. But he said: "It means that we will take up our forces inside Iraqi territory." He emphasized that Iran had no designs on Iraqi territory.

Iraq has disclosed that its forces have withdrawn from new positions after the long Iraqi offensive.

In Rome, Hoang Van Huu, the Iranian Ambassador to the Vatican, said a press conference that Iran had been forced to leave.

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Cape Town

South Africa. The South African government has announced that it will not ban the ANC, who it is attempting to oust from power.

Mr To Huu and Mr Vo Van Kiet, both younger politicians whose stars are rising rapidly by Vietnamese standards.

Mr To Huu is widely tipped for the higher posts in the party in later years. A poet, he has his work quoted a number of times during the congress.

Mr Kiet's promotion is significant as an attempt to involve the southern part of the country more in national affairs. He was party secretary in Ho Chi Minh City (previously Saigon).

Mr Nguyen Co Thach, the Foreign Minister, who was promoted to alternate member of the Politburo, is another of the younger generation whom the party is trying to bring in. Despite predictions, there were no changes at the very top of the Politburo and the top five members kept their old positions despite reports of the ill health of Mr Le Duan, Secretary General.

13 sentenced to
death in Aden

Yemen. The 13 condemned to death include 12 men and one woman.

They are accused of being members of the Red Brigades.

New Cabinet
for Surinam

Surinam. The new cabinet has been sworn in.

Distant quasar
being studied

Astronomers are studying a distant quasar in the Andromeda galaxy.

Aggett friendly
TV interview

General Giap is demoted by Hanoi congress

From David Watts, Singapore, March 31

General Vo Nguyen Giap, the veteran Vietnamese leader who built up the Vietnamese forces fighting the French from 1944 and was later Defence Minister during the war against the Americans, has been removed by the fifth national congress from the party Politburo.

His demotion was one of a series of changes that came at the close of the congress, in Hanoi, setting the pattern for the next five years in both political and economic matters.

He was replaced in the number six position by general Van Tien Dung, the Minister of Defence, who led Hanoi's troops in the 1975 campaign that ended with the capture of Saigon.

General Giap had been steadily losing influence since the disastrous Tet offensive of 1968, which exposed 85 per cent of communist cadres in the South. He retains his position in the Central Committee.

General Giap was one of six members of the Politburo who were not reelected at today's final session of congress. The others appeared to be replaced for a variety of reasons ranging from age to recent failures.

Most notable of the latter was Mr Le Thanh Nghi, who was removed as chairman of the State Planning Commission last year for the failure of economic policies.

Two former alternate members of the Politburo promoted to full members were Mr To Huu and Mr Vo Van Kiet, both younger politicians whose stars are rising rapidly by Vietnamese standards.

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Mr Gorbachov said the awards were made for the men's work in strengthening relations with the Soviet Union, linked to Vietnam by a treaty of friendship. They also reflected Soviet respect for Vietnam's actions for peace and democracy.

Mr Gorbachov, the youngest and newest member of the Politburo, had a delicate task in Hanoi. His visit came immediately after President Brezhnev's Tashkent speech calling for better relations with China, a bitter enemy of Vietnam. The Russians offered little beyond verbal support when China attacked Vietnam three years ago, and Hanoi may press for assurances that any improvement in relations with Peking will not be at Vietnam's expense.

General Giap: Leader in fight against colonial rule. This photograph was taken in 1971.

Italian terrorism

Unequal success against the Red and the Black

From John Earle, Rome, March 31

The Red Brigades are on the run, but no one thinks terrorism in Italy has been eliminated. "In three or six months we risk a new offensive," says Signor Giorgio Benvenuto, secretary of the trade union confederation UIL.

His organization, composed mostly of socialists, republicans and Social Democrats, has been particularly affected, since Signor Luigi Scirocco, its official formerly responsible for foreign relations, is in prison under investigation for alleged links with the Red Brigades.

Signor Benvenuto has replaced him for the time being with Signor Renzo Canciani, aged 32, a former worker in Alfa Romeo.

Alfa Romeo in Milan, along with Fiat in Turin and Montedison's petrochemical works at Porto Marghera, have been prominent Red Brigades targets in recent years, with a series of kidnappings, killings and kidnapings. A Turin magistrate recently pointed out that more than a third of those arrested from the Red Brigades "column" were workers at Fiat, including some stewards.

In Milan, Signor Benvenuto emphasizes that the so-called "Walter Alasia column" of the Red Brigades, which last summer kidnapped Alfa Romeo's head of labour relations, has not been wiped out, though it has suffered losses.

It has long had some influence in the factory, and it may be significant that clashes have taken place this week between workers and factory guards over a redundancy scheme accepted by the unions.

Since the liberation from

Opposition poised for triumph in Victoria

From Douglas Aitken, Melbourne, March 31

The removal of General Giap, however, is a clear indication of the party's determination to apply the guidelines laid down at the fourth congress to the most illustrious of Vietnam's revolutionaries.

General Giap was one of the original opponents of French colonial rule. He joined the Vietnam Workers' Party at the age of 16 in 1926, going on to be Minister of the Interior in Ho Chi Minh's provisional Government of 1945 and leading the Vietnamese in their battle of Dien Bien Phu in 1954, which led to the French defeat.

The themes of the fifth congress have been the change of party politics from trying to develop simultaneously both industry and agriculture. The party and country have recognized the right to get the fundamental right before progress can be made on the industrial front.

Most fundamental of all is the country's agriculture which will be given priority in an attempt to feed the population and attain self-sufficiency by the end of the present five-year plan.

Hanoi radio interviews with party cadres visiting the capital made it clear that inefficient bureaucracy and mismanagement are as much to blame for the lack of food as is low productivity. Some young cadres were surprisingly outspoken in their criticism of the leadership for these failings.

But with precious little assistance coming from the non-communist world, the Vietnamese will once again have to turn to the Soviet Union for increased aid.

The chief Soviet delegate to the congress, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, secretary of the Soviet Central Committee, pledged greatly expanded technical and economic aid to Vietnam and said that Soviet-Vietnamese relations would develop in a more "varied and vigorous manner". Turnover of goods between the two countries would double in the next five years.

■ Moscow: The Soviet Union yesterday presented its highest award, the order of Lenin, to Vietnamese state and party leaders (Michael Binion writes). Mr Gorbachov gave the decoration to Mr Le Duan, President Truong Chinh, and Mr Pham Van Dong, the prime minister.

Mr Gorbachov said the awards were made for the men's work in strengthening relations with the Soviet Union, linked to Vietnam by a treaty of friendship. They also reflected Soviet respect for Vietnam's actions for peace and democracy.

Mr Gorbachov, the youngest and newest member of the Politburo, had a delicate task in Hanoi. His visit came immediately after President Brezhnev's Tashkent speech calling for better relations with China, a bitter enemy of Vietnam. The Russians offered little beyond verbal support when China attacked Vietnam three years ago, and Hanoi may press for assurances that any improvement in relations with Peking will not be at Vietnam's expense.

General Giap: Leader in fight against colonial rule. This photograph was taken in 1971.

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Spanish outcry at surgeon's killing

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 31

been so starkly revealed.

The killing last night of a leading surgeon who had earlier reported he was treating a suspected member of the ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty) organization, has brought renewed tension throughout Spain's troubled northern region. ETA has claimed responsibility for the killing.

Versions of the reason for the murder differed. The Spanish General Council of Doctors stated originally that the surgeon had reported treating the suspected terrorist to the authorities, but later the council said he was killed for having refused to attend an ETA member.

To underline the dilemma of doctors working in the Basque region, local people are also worried about the death of a general practitioner from a heart attack shortly after he had been interrogated over nine days by Civil Guards about alleged medical contacts with terrorists.

Six people — four police, one senior telephone executive, and a young woman — have been killed by Basque terrorists over the past fortnight. This has created high political tension which the Calvo Sotelo Government had hoped at all costs to avoid for fear of its impact on the court martial proceedings in Madrid of those involved in last year's attempt to overthrow democracy.

The difficulties for doctors in the Basque region, who have an obligation to save anyone's life, have never been greater. A telephone call on behalf of ETA military wing to Egin a daily newspaper with ETA sympathies, subsequently claimed the surgeon had been killed, and gave details of where his body could be found.

Dr Carasa was believed to have attended one of the suspected ETA gunmen who had escaped from the authorities after the shooting of two national policemen and a young woman as they were having lunch in a restaurant near Bilbao on March 22.



Paratroop drop ends in disaster

Private Steve Harshberger of the 82nd Airborne Division from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, landed with parachutes and with a bloody face after a disastrous parachute exercise in the Mojave Desert near Fort Irwin, California in which four men were killed and 71 injured, three of them critically. More than 2,300 paratroopers took part in the first exercise of units of the Rapid Deployment Task Force from all military services. It was one of the largest American parachute exercises in peacetime.

The cause of the deaths has not been confirmed officially, but winds in the area before the drop were gusting at 45 mph on the ground and there were reports that two parachutes failed to open, the straps of others snarled in the wind and one man landed on a piece of heavy equipment.

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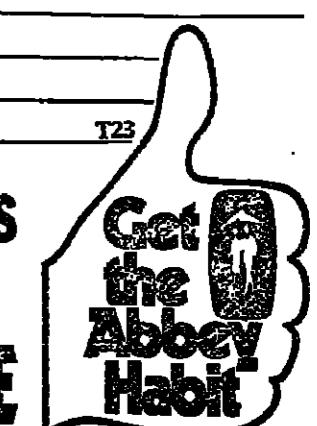
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Absurd Man . . .

Clinging to the Wreckage
By John Mortimer

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.95)

"Drawing out are we today?" glinted the bank manager at the poor young barrister and writer standing before him. "Or are we paying in?"

"Drawing out actually," I admitted. "I mean, we've got to live."

"No 'got to' about it," the manager said sharply. "In fact, many people have to learn that living is quite unnecessary!"

It gave me no satisfaction to learn that the following week, my bank manager had fallen off the platform at Chancery Lane and been killed instantly by an oncoming 'Northern Line'. I have learned that it is very unsafe to prophesy other people's deaths.

John Mortimer illustrates the point further with an even better story about a fortune-teller who failed to see farther than the end of September because she herself, not the client, was due to die on October 1. It is strange that he discovered the tragical-comical nature of farce comparatively late, for it turns out to be his natural element and this exceptionally touching and funny memoir is rich in remarkable occasions and surprising surprises which further embellish the epigraph from Camus placed at the head of the book: "For the absurd man, it is not a matter of explaining and solving but of experiencing and describing. Everything begins with a lucid indifference."

We are invited then to enjoy *Clinging to the Wreckage*, a 200 page account of Mortimer's life up to the OJ trial and the first stage performance of *Voyage Round My Father* as a Portrait of the Artist as the Absurd Man, and the final paragraph of all reminds us that the result is only "a part of life, seen from one point of view" (suggesting, no doubt correctly, others to come) and that "these are the things that stayed with me for a while before they left to go into a book."

This, of course, is the most terrific English understatement and nothing to do with lucid indifference in the French manner at all, for behind the thick spectacles and the whimsical Hapsburg chin lies the watchfulness of a writer trying to hear the sound of his own voice, much bewilderment and some pain. Gentleness is one of the virtues he most admires in other men; it is rarely, if ever, applied to a woman in this book — but it is a gentleness that has as little to do with timidity as goodness has with blind faith. The author of *Clinging to the Wreckage* is a good man as Anton Chekhov was a good man.

A whole series of reveries and absurdities, some spectacular and some mild, unfolds around the only child's progress from Children to Harrow, Oxford, the Crown Film Unit, and years of divorce work in the High Court followed, as he puts it, by a switch to crime. Grandfather Mortimer was a Bristol brewer who took the Pledge. John's father, as we know from *Voyage*, was struck blind in the garden and spent the rest of his life and career pretending the accident had not taken place:

Michael Ratcliffe

properous and sunny planet which suddenly has to cope with an ice age which encompasses its entire surface.

Hitherto having known only warmth and comfort, when storms were a rarity and food plentiful, the people of Planet 8 are slowly roused out of their torpor by a Representative formed under the guidance of the Canopian Agents.

As the planet gradually and unrelentingly reverts to an icy, sterile wasteland, the inhabitants struggle to salvage the only remnants they are left with: the actual selves.

Doris Lessing gently suggests that we might look at our own lives and the events that surround them and compare them with evolutions and occurrences in other existences.

A single day spent on a frozen river in the Fens provides the setting for Marina Warner's *The Skating Party* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £6.95). The narrative dips and turns amongst the company as it makes its way downstream.

Michael, the university anthropologist who is hosting the outing with his wife Viola, is infatuated with the fascinating eighteen-year-old, Katy. Viola, striving to make her own mark in the art world by unravelling a mystery involving a Renaissance fresco-cycle and bound up in her rebellious teenage son Timmo, endeavours to understand the powerful undercurrents between the two.

As the story gathers pace and the party moves towards its abrupt and tragic ending the loves and hopes of its members emerge and mingle, together with disturbing revelations about their pasts.

This sensitive and forceful novel exposes the complexities of each person's character and their different needs as each strives for recognition and reassurance.

The Man Who Lived At The Ritz by A E Hotchner (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £6.95) is a chilling experience in more ways than one. It concerns a

this, his son has now decided, was out of evasiveness, not courage. A film studio, for which John was invited to write after the war, had totally vanished when he reported for work next day; his closest friend at Oxford, who had introduced him to music and the possibility of unforced moral example, was a pacifist who murdered his mistress and poisoned himself in a wood. The memory shakes him still, and it shakes the book, too.

He writes of all these things at exactly the right length and weight, and the whole book is a model of allusive compactness. *Clinging to the Wreckage* contains among its many lightning sketches as Devil Souls: rich Uncle Harold who controlled by slide-rule the length of everything in his life from the beds he sold to the clothes he wore and the bacon he ate at breakfast; Mullard, the joyless hodge-podge of Turville who allowed his family one experience of pleasure a year; his ancient cylinder of "The Laughing Friar" at Christmas; the Finchley Road shrinks who watched John's marriage die; Sam Spiegel, Anatol de Grunwald, Kenneth Tynan and John Osborne. The sketches are sharp, compassionate and just. My favourite is the General who had not spoken to his wife for years but addressed savage little notes to the items of furniture her family had supplied: "You are a very vulgar little sideboard. Go back to Whiteley's where you came from".

Marriage and divorce informed his earlier years and helped make him a writer. A kind of agreed truce, or pax, seems to surround his own first, to Penelope Dimont, which lasted 20 years and was fairly famous in its time. Rare glimpses are allowed of Penelope's zestful comic despair, typing away surrounded by tumbling small girls; of John and Penelope

quarrelling on a flamingo hunt in the Camargue; and of The Protesting Mortimers of Suez and CND — "Penelope was better at demonstrations than I, more determined in Downing Street and much more resolute in Grosvenor Square" — but the details are blurred for now. The marriage ends, like so much in the book, in tragical-comical farce, as both parties leave items of expensive dental capping in the same spare rib at the restaurant of the Rose Garden in Regent's Park. That's his version: I can't wait to read hers.

Michael Ratcliffe

properous and sunny planet which suddenly has to cope with an ice age which encompasses its entire surface.

Hitherto having known only warmth and comfort, when storms were a rarity and food plentiful, the people of Planet 8 are slowly roused out of their torpor by a Representative formed under the guidance of the Canopian Agents.

As the planet gradually and unrelentingly reverts to an icy, sterile wasteland, the inhabitants struggle to salvage the only remnants they are left with: the actual selves.

Doris Lessing gently suggests that we might look at our own lives and the events that surround them and compare them with evolutions and occurrences in other existences.

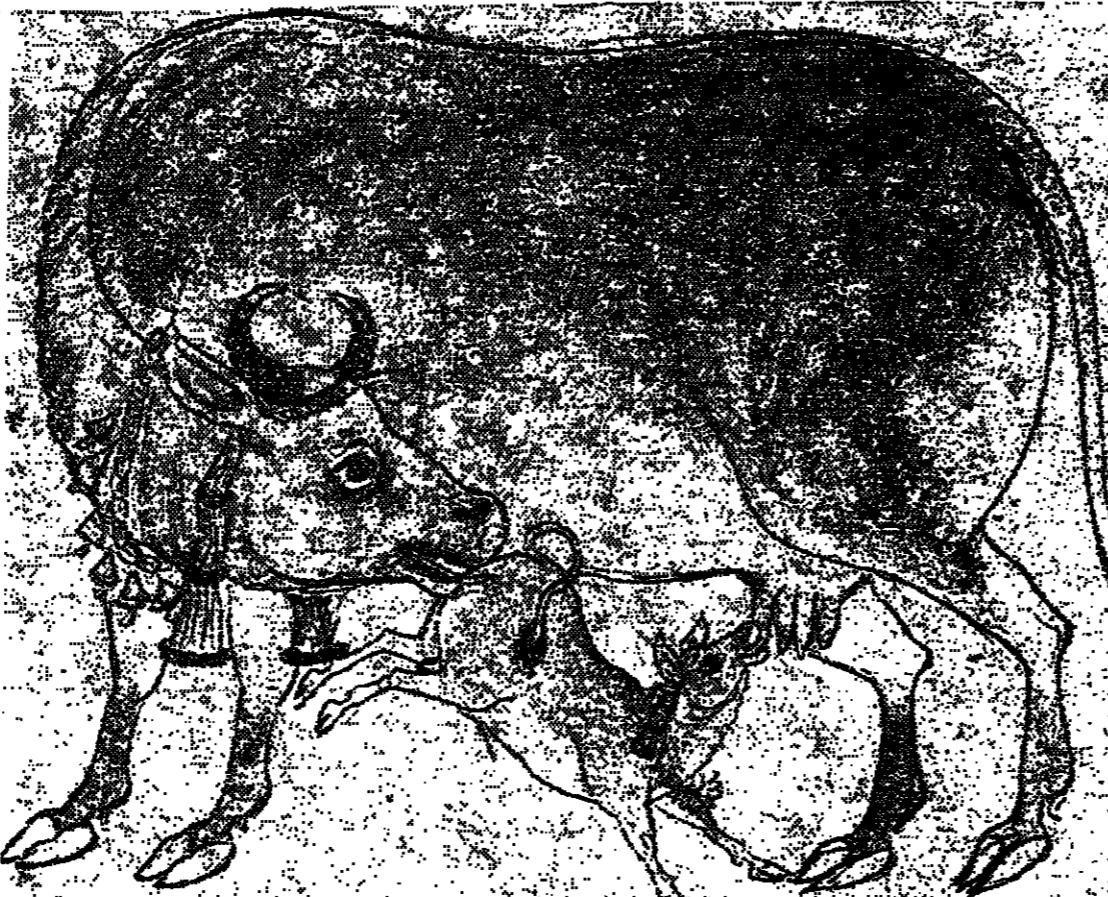
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Cow licks, calf sucks, by the Rajasthan school circa 1800 in Devgarh from In The Image Of Man, the Indian perception of the Universe through 2,000 years of painting and sculpture. Weidenfeld, £7.50.

Exploring the subtleties of woman

Letters from Colette
Selected and Translated by Robert Phelps
(Virago, £6.95)

Robert Phelps is a Colette anthologist, an excellent one, whose notations and bibliographic data add a pleasing dimension to *Earthly Paradise*, selections from her work, and *Belles Sauvages*, a biographical scrapbook, volumes which have vastly increased Colette's popularity with English readers. The qualities — judicious selection and stimulating appetizers — which enhance his previous *Colette-iana* may well reduce the final impact of his *Letters from Colette*, which, wishing to cover all aspects, conveys an impression of scrappiness, selections mostly of a few paragraphs, often one, there by failing to allow the full flavour of the Colette wine to satisfy one's palate: this is sniffing at the aroma. There are five weighty volumes of

However, grumble over one can never have enough of Colette. Mr Phelps's little book (213 pages) recommends itself since his words are Colette's and his chronological-autobiographical treatment covers pretty well, if only in snippets, all the known events and people in Colette's life. Mr Phelps is to be congratulated in choosing one fragment (there are many others) which puts paid to the oft repeated myth that

Willy wrote the Claudine books: "when Willy did me the dubious honour of signing my novels, he would occasionally insert into my texts a few words designed to gratify his personal spite. He served with a full translation of at least one of these. In particular the letters to her life-long friend, actress Marguerite Moreno, should never be truncated; an autobiographical volume in itself. Colette wrote at great length to Moreno, as she also did to Renée Vivien and writer Hélène Picard.

Stressed also is Colette's professional dedication, both as writer and *artiste-mime*. She had a horror of idleness, especially in herself, this clearly inherited from that inspiring mother, Sido, whose hands were never idle. Her generosity to friends and fellow-writers is evident, and her total concern with the sensual world of animals, plants and weather. In

Colette's writing one ever comes up against the vivid truism of her being so utterly French; her remaining in Paris during the second world war is a great Colette touch ("I always spend my time in Paris"), when the radio talks and magazine articles were her playing maman (oustanding Sido in that role) to all French women suffering under the Nazi

What comes through these letters most is that her letters to women friends are deeper, more revealing, than letters to male friends who were treated as *copains*, even if lovers. Women were to be most courted, as she courted her mother to whom she wrote daily (have all these really been destroyed one wonders), and there is that fine sensuality in letters to Moreno (of whom she wrote "she was so little made for dying") Picard and Vivien. Always a touch of flirtatiousness, of confidence, of trust, which is not surprising when one considers how wonderfully the novelist in her explored the subtleties of women. She needed a man about her life, often several, but she required the seduction of women (even metaphorically) to enable her genius to produce its finest blossom.

Kay Dick



Having a bash with Ogden Nash

A Penny Saved is Impossible
By Ogden Nash
(Andre Deutsch, £5.95)

On my only meeting with Ogden Nash I paid him a compliment in a flash, quoting from a poem of his in the *New Yorker* which in my view was a corker. It didn't go well. Still, you can never tell. There are people who can't handle praise, and change the subject or avert the gaze.

Once, during the noisy drinks before a Wednesday lunch, I found this with dear old diffident "Eve", ex-, but only just, editor of *Punch*. I forgot what it was he'd written, but I was sufficiently smitten, as we were standing on the editorial landing, to proffer my shy bouquet. He drew me away by the arm, seeking, as I thought, for a response of

charm, but said, instead, after a temporizing frown, "Why is it in this place you can always tell up from here what soup you're going to get two floors down?"

This isn't to say that things can't go the other way. When I told Perelman (Sido), that I thought some recent *Maisertück* was the best thing he ever did — this was a chat in the Savage Club lounge — he gave the paper towels a tweak and said, yes, it was one of his favourites too. I suppose there's no reason why such gifted blokes shouldn't enjoy their own jokes, though if it came to a choice of responding ids I think on the whole I'd rather have E. V. Knox than Sido's.

Nash, I painfully recall, didn't respond at all. Well, there may have been a non-committal reference to the weather. I later discovered that I'd commended him for a piece that wasn't by him at

all but someone else altogether. I still get little rushes of hot flushes at the recollection.

So Ogden's new selection, though his chance of being reached by these observations is now, alas, remote, at least gives me the opportunity to make amends by paying him a compliment or two on something he actually wrote.

And, oh, boy. Is his work a

Don't try to read it in a day. You'll end up talking his ears off. Keep the book close, handy for the occasional dose. Guess it at a gush, and you'll find it at a singing pulp. Believe me, I know, as this lot, I think it's only too apparent by this time, only too apparent to show. It's been a right headache to do.

But this time, at any rate, dear Ogden, it's for you.

Basil Boothroyd

All those things are fun, but if you think that's the whole of it you haven't begun because what we have here, let's be clear, is a clinical, yet never cynical, light, illuminating the entire human plight, from the hell of selling houses, to bills, helboys and the unattractive aspect of lady golfers' trouser suits, let alone (and plus), when you come right down to it, it's all about us.

Don't try to read it in a day. You'll end up talking his ears off. Keep the book close, handy for the occasional dose. Guess it at a gush, and you'll find it at a singing pulp. Believe me, I know, as this lot, I think it's only too apparent by this time, only too apparent to show. It's been a right headache to do.

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another. When you've broken one queen egg you've broken them all; the yolk is, undoubtedly, on me for not being an addict.

God Emperor Of Dune, by Frank Herbert (New English Library, £2.50). My end is as my beginning: an epic. And Book Four in Frank Herbert's remarkable Dune series, its portrayal of ruler Leto Atreides. Symbolically linked with the sandworm, is one of the really spectacular SF achievements in creating a different being — whose self-sacrifice for his race yet echoes an idealistic aspiration that one hopes is human as well.

Tom Hutchinson

Paperbacks

The Sicilian Vespers By Steven Runciman (Cambridge, £8.50)

On 30 March seven centuries ago, as all the bells in Palermo began to ring for Vespers, the Sicilians, with knives drawn and crying

"Death to the French!" poured through every Frenchman, woman, and child they could find. It is a long time ago, and as our modern massacres go, it was quite a small one. The Sicilian Vespers today suggest little more than one of Verdi's lesser operas. Nevertheless they changed fundamentally the history of Christendom.

More than three centuries later King Henry IV of France boasted to the Spanish ambassador that he could do to the Spanish lands in Italy what the King of Spain to try his patience too far. "I will break fast in Milan," he said, "and I will dine at Rome."

"Then," replied the ambassador, "Your Majesty will doubtless be in Sicily in time for Vespers."

To commemorate the seven hundredth anniversary of the

Action man

The Years of Upheaval, 1973-1977
By Henry Kissinger

(Michael Joseph, £15.95)

Reviewing the first volume of Henry Kissinger's memoirs for this paper I concluded that he will be judged well by history. For on the major issue concerning the Soviet Union and the delicate balance of power which determines our survival he is shown to be careful, clear-headed, constrained and consistent". Nothing in the 1200-plus pages of this second volume which covers his period as Secretary of State under President Nixon, gives me grounds for reviewing that judgement.

In a dense and detailed book the gold is contained in those pages covering nearly half the book which deal with the October six-day 1973 Middle East War, the Egyptian-Israeli disengagement ending with the thirty-four day shuttle to conclude a Syrian-Israeli disengagement agreement on 31 May, 1974. The rest of the book is a combination of overdrawn sentiment over Watergate, ingratiating pen portraits of world leaders geared, one senses, more to serialization rights than to history, and too much self-justification over Chile, Cambodia and the disastrous Year of Europe initiative.

But these are minor blemishes on a superb account of the diplomatic effort to resolve the Middle East War. It is for this diplomatic gold that this book deserves to be remembered as does its author. October 1973 was the most dangerous superpower clash since the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. Henry Kissinger dominated the 1973 crisis at every stage. He did so not just because President Nixon was being destroyed by Watergate but because the man was made for the crisis. He knew the politics of the Middle East extremely well, had an intimate knowledge of two of the key personalities, Prime Minister Sadat and President Sadat, and above all had established a close working relationship with the Soviet leader. President Brezhnev, the Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, and the Soviet Ambassador in Washington, Anatoly Dobrynin. This was done over four and half years as Assistant to Jerusalem and to Camp David, Europe, always sceptical of the evolutionary approach to the Middle East is still bedevilled by theologians of UN resolutions and those for whom a just outcome can wait for decades. It was Kissinger's triumph to demonstrate that his step-by-step approach could produce results and might eventually be the path to the comprehensive peace we all seek. He was right to separate the Syrians and to negotiate first with President Sadat. This approach, and the relationship he established with President Sadat, was the precursor for Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and to Camp David, Europe, always sceptical of the evolutionary approach to the Middle East is still bedevilled by theologians of UN resolutions and those for whom a just outcome can wait for decades. It was Kissinger's triumph to demonstrate that his step-by-step approach could produce results and might eventually be the path to the comprehensive peace we all seek. He was right to separate the Syrians and to negotiate first with President Sadat. This approach, and the relationship he established with President Sadat, was the precursor for Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and to Camp David, Europe, always sceptical of the evolutionary approach to the Middle East is still bedevilled by theologians of UN resolutions and those for whom a just outcome can wait for decades. It was Kissinger's triumph to demonstrate that his step-by-step approach could produce results and might eventually be the path to the comprehensive peace we all seek. He was right to separate the Syrians and to negotiate first with President Sadat. This approach, and the relationship he established with President Sadat, was the precursor for Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and to Camp David, Europe, always sceptical of the evolutionary approach to the Middle East is still bedevilled by theologians of UN resolutions and those for whom a just outcome can wait for decades. It was Kissinger's triumph to demonstrate that his step-by-step approach could produce results and might eventually be the path to the comprehensive peace we all seek. He was right to separate the Syrians and to negotiate first with President Sadat. This approach, and the relationship he established with President Sadat, was the precursor for Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and to Camp David, Europe, always sceptical of the evolutionary approach to the Middle East is still bedevilled by theologians of UN resolutions and those for whom a just outcome can wait for decades. It was Kissinger's triumph to demonstrate that his step-by-step approach could produce results and might eventually be the path to the comprehensive peace we all seek. He was right to separate the Syrians and to negotiate first with President Sadat. This approach, and the relationship he established with President Sadat, was the precursor for Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and to Camp David, Europe, always sceptical of the evolutionary approach to the Middle East is still bedevilled by theologians of UN resolutions and those for whom a just outcome can wait for decades. It was Kissinger's triumph to demonstrate that his step-by-step approach could produce results and might eventually be the path to the comprehensive peace we all seek. He was right to separate the Syrians and to negotiate first with President Sadat. This approach, and the relationship he established with President Sadat, was the precursor

Eric Marsden in Johannesburg sums up the controversial tour

The rebel test that failed

South Africa's cricket officials are already quietly planning another "rebel" tour next season, but the tourists will be from more than one country and there will be greater emphasis on one-day games, with perhaps only one full "test" of four or five days. This has not been publicly stated but is the inference from reactions by senior administrators to the tour by Graham Gooch's "South African Breweries Eleven," which ended in anticlimax here on Monday.

Should the International Cricket Conference relent and implement its commissioners' proposal that a mixed international team should be sent to South Africa, all other plans would be gladly scrapped. But there is scant chance of this. Mr Joe Pamensky, chairman of the South African Cricket Union, who is sending a report on the "positive results" of the English eleven's tour to Lords, will not speculate on future events except to repeat that SACU is known to be "innovative, inventive and resourceful." He said Gooch and his men had done much to foster the game in South Africa.

Mr Ahmed Mangera, president of the Transvaal Cricket Board, which is affiliated to the South African Council of Sport and rejects "normal sport until there is a 'normal society,'" claims that dwindling attendances proved that people were losing interest in such "gimmicks" and that if the rumoured tour including Australian Test stars becomes a reality the result would be the same.

The tour, undoubtedly failed to pay its way, but the breweries had agreed in advance to foot the bill. Grounds were crowded for the three one-day matches, all won by South Africa, but were less than half-full for the four-day "Tests," two of which were tame draws. Debate is raging over whether this was due to the exaggerated importance



Amiss and Underwood meet young South African fans in Johannesburg

given them by radio and television: there was a ball-by-ball radio commentary on the six "internationals" and day-long television at first, until it became obvious that attendances were being affected.

Some say that the saturation coverage helped revive flagging interest in cricket, especially among schoolboys, and point out that gates did not improve on Sundays when Calvinist authority ruled out any coverage. But Sunday is traditionally reserved for barbecues and garden frolics, and a surprising number of people go to church.

Most likely the public sensed that the true Test atmosphere was missing, as it was with the Kerry Packer series.

On the field the tour at first boosted and then shat-

tered South African illusions that after 12 years of isolation they are still world-beaters and the survivors of their 1970 team are as good as ever. In the first one-day match, which provided the best cricket of the month, the South Africans passed the 240 set them for the loss of three wickets and with overs in hand, with Barry Richards and Graeme Pollock sharing batting honours with new boy Jimmy Cook, and Mike Procter winning the bowling prize. Richards and Pollock were again in masterly form in the first four-day "Test," which South Africa won comfortably.

But as the pressure increased, with only a day's rest between games, they were shown to be ordinary mortals. Richards, though stylish as ever, is no longer a relentless destroyer of open-

ing attacks. Pollock, revered here as "the Prince of Batsmen" or "The Great Man," proved vulnerable outside the off stump in his last three innings. Procter was unable to bowl in the big games and sadly gave up the captaincy because of his knee injury. Clive Rice could not bowl because of neck trouble.

Cook and Peter Kirsten were the most consistent South African batsmen and Vincent van der Bijl emerged as the team's only world-class bowler. The giant van der Bijl, who holds nearly every South African bowling record, took 18 wickets in the three major games.

The South Africans have realized that they have to rebuild and cannot afford to lose any more players such as Kepler Wessels, now an Australian, and Allan Lamb,

who hopes to play for England this year. Ali Bacher, the 1970 Springbok captain who is convenor of the selectors, is urging that young cricketers should be offered full-time professional contracts to stop the drain.

Before the tour Graham Gooch was little known here (though he played club cricket in the Cape five years ago), and regarded as Boycott's junior partner. He hit two centuries and his buccaneering style electrified crowds.

Amies's classical correctness aroused nostalgia but Boycott was a disappointment. So was Bob Woolmer until his 100 on the final day. The best bowler was the uncapped Les Taylor, who partnered Van der Bijl for Natal this season. The others were steady but lacked pene tration, and John Emburey's early loss through injury was a severe blow.

The tourists improved as the series went on and were unlucky not to have won the last two matches. Despite a lack of back-up organization and a schedule which left only one day between games, usually for travelling, they took the strain better than the South Africans, who normally play only four-day matches over five months, interspersed with one-day knock-out contests.

If the three-year ban is not lifted, Gooch and most of the others will be back here next season.

There is sadness that the bitterness of the tour has aroused has led to the withdrawal of invitations to former Player and Eddie Barlow to play at the Oval for "the Rest of the World against 'Old England' for the Ken Barrington Memorial Fund.

It is apparently feared they might embarrass Sir Garfield Sobers and the other West Indians. But these three have been consistent campaigners against Apartheid in sports, especially Barlow, who has stood for parliament on an anti-Apartheid platform.

A new national service: the way to find a million jobs

by Ian Bradley

Recent opinion polls suggest that a nationwide community service scheme for young people commands the support of a clear majority of the population. Nearly all the letters received and published by *The Times* following a leading article entitled "Your Country Needs You" on February 27 have also been favourable. Serious doubts persist, however, about how such a scheme could be implemented. Can enough jobs be found in the community for young people to do? How would such a scheme be organized and what would it cost? In short, is it really a practical proposition rather than an idealistic dream?

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classroom. There is also obviously enormous scope for jobs in the general field of conservation and environmental improvement, both in rural areas and in the inner cities, where large numbers of young people could be used to rehabilitate derelict buildings and create playgrounds and parks.

Much of the organization and administration of a national community service scheme could be left in the hands of local agencies, both statutory and voluntary. It would seem sensible, for example, for local social services and education departments to supervise placements in the institutions and schools which they run. The voluntary help organisers now attached to most hospitals would be well placed to organise those working in the health service.

Environmental projects could be run by voluntary agencies like the National Trust and the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, which has estimated that, with adequate funding, it could create work amounting to 100,000 man months each year. Jobs in the field of inner-city rehabilitation could be organized and managed by local authorities and by voluntary and community groups.

Almost certainly the most difficult obstacle to be overcome in setting up a nationwide community service scheme would be the opposition of the trade unions. At a time of high unemployment and cutbacks in public spending it is not surprising that public sector unions in particular might regard such a scheme, particularly if introduced by the present Government, as a way of getting labour on the cheap.

It is a great pity that the argument in favour of nationwide community service has been put forward at a time of very high unemployment. The justification for the one is not the existence of the other. However appealing it may be to politicians, the temporary removal of large numbers of young people from the labour market, and therefore from the unemployment statistics, would be essentially only a by-product of nationwide community service and not its main purpose or benefit.

In fact, many long-term jobs would be created as a direct result of the introduction of such a scheme. Supervisors and managers would be needed, including skilled builders and craftsmen, to lead the teams of young people working on inner-city rehabilitation. That particular area of work would also give a much-needed boost to the construction industry.

Ultimately, it is imagination and will that are required to turn the idea of national community service into a reality. One of the first actions of Franklin Roosevelt when he became President of the USA in 1933 in the midst of the worst depression this century was to set up the Civilian Conservation Corps. The corps grew from zero to a quarter of a million in three months, was responsible for planting two billion trees covering 21 million acres, more than half the area now under forest in the United States. Nearly 40 million acres of farm-land were saved from erosion. Surely it is not beyond the resources of Great Britain 50 years later to put the energy and enthusiasm of our young people to work to save our inner cities from decay and death?

The author is a member of the Youth Call working party.

Where the young would work

In care of the elderly
In hospitals & health care
In education
In environmental conservation
In conservation in urban areas
Skills development

Total jobs 847,100
Source: minimum figures in Enrico Colombaro's LSE discussion paper.

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Total jobs 847,100

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SPREADING GERMANY'S WINGS

There are two main threats to western Europe. One is posed by the vast array of Soviet weaponry looming over its eastern frontiers. The other is the threat of social instability provoked by recession, and unemployment, and perhaps aggravated by opposition to nuclear weapons. The two threats are linked in so far as there is no point in trying to defend ourselves against the Russians if we cannot sustain political and economic structures that are worth defending and capable of producing the wealth to pay for defence.

By comparison, it is remarkable that the cost of the European Community is less than £1,000 per head, and that last year the European Programme placed 300 million experience projects of community projects of a total cost of £250m.

Almost certainly the best way to settle up a new European scheme would be the restoration of the trade unions and consumers' public power, and surprising participation in the rearmament of the European Community.

This week's European summit sensibly addressed itself to both threats but fell some way short of generating the momentum necessary to deal with them. Neither its words on unemployment (now roughly ten million) nor its complaints about high interest rates (no mention of Mr Reagan as the culprit) and still less its rather tentative talk of "further consultation" with Washington, did justice to the need for a much more coherent and forceful European contribution to the joint problems of the alliance.

If this is to develop in time

for the Versailles summit meeting in June, a lot of responsibility is going to fall on West Germany. It is the European country most exposed to the military threat and most worried by the effects of economic stress on its society. This worry often seems exaggerated to its neighbours, who see a democracy in pretty good working order and an economy capable of dealing with a fair amount of trouble, but the fact that the Germans are starting to feel uneasy and insecure is whether justified or not; a political reality that the alliance must take into account.

The first thing it needs to do is to listen more closely to what Herr Genscher, the Foreign Minister, has been saying recently about the need for Europe to put aside bickering and develop a stronger voice on major political issues. The next thing is to look more closely at the contribution which West Germany can make to the alliance. It is still understandably inhibited by its past — or by the lingering suspicions of its neighbours — from reaching too obviously for the leadership of Europe, but that is not the main issue or the best way of looking at the problem.

The stress which West Germany now feels has been made worse by pressure from Washington and Paris to choose between its eastern and western relations. Washington has wanted West Germany to line up with more confrontational and even

punitive policies towards the Warsaw Pact. The French have begun to plague themselves with worries that West Germany could slide into its own version of Gaulism, making private arrangements with Moscow to the detriment of the alliance. This is one of the reasons why they are pressing for more European cooperation on defence. In the sixties and seventies they could flaunt their independence and make their own advances to Moscow because they felt securely protected behind West Germany. Now they feel less sure of their ally.

These fears are exaggerated, but it is true that the West Germans have been made restive by the fact that the alliance is no longer united behind the concept of détente which they have faithfully pursued for more than a decade — that is, military balance combined with a widening of political, commercial, cultural and personal contacts. As they frequently point out, it is not they who have changed but those who have changed the Americans.

This is a problem not just for West Germany but for the alliance since West Germany is the strongest and the most vulnerable power in Europe, and a vital cornerstone of the alliance. It also happens to exemplify the European dilemma of being wholly dependent for its security on the United States without having sufficient influence over American decisions. It is not drifting into neutralism but it could drift into still greater disaffection with the alliance if its own interests are insufficiently respected, or seen as in conflict with those of its allies.

The immediate key to the problem is to see that the conflict is in fact illusory. West Germany's eastern policies are not a liability but an asset to the alliance. They have opened up eastern Europe to western influence, contributed to an amelioration of conditions in eastern Europe, and given the states of eastern Europe a stake in deterring which the Russians cannot wholly ignore. During this period, too, the ideological appeal of the Soviet Union to western opinion has sunk to its lowest ebb since 1917. All this has contributed significantly to the security of western Europe and has led to any diminution of the West German defence effort, which continued to increase even when American defence spending was dropping.

It would help nobody, except possibly the Russians, if all this work were abandoned and the iron curtain allowed to descend again across central Europe.

WE DON'T HAVE THE SHIPS BUT BY JINGO...

The South Georgia incident seems to have developed into a Falkland Islands crisis. It may be that the incident was planned for that precise purpose by the Argentine government. If so, the British government could be said to have played into Argentina's hands. If not, the crisis is probably quite unnecessary. But it is not yet unmanageable.

The action of the Argentine salvage men, in ignoring the British authorities at Grytviken (whose permission they had been told by the British Embassy in Buenos Aires they would require for a landing on South Georgia and then raising the Argentine flag, could hardly be interpreted as other than a provocation. But it did not necessarily have to be interpreted as an attempt by Argentina, as a state, to seize or colonise South Georgia.

The official Argentine role was confined to the landing of some equipment for the salvage party from an Argentine naval vessel — hardly in itself an act of aggression. Only when it became known that Britain had diverted HMS Endurance to the area did the Argentine foreign minister announce that another naval vessel, the Bahia Paraiso, had

been sent there and was standing by to protect Argentine citizens.

With hindsight it can be asked whether the British government was wise to dramatise the incident by diverting the Endurance in this way, and whether it would not have been more statesmanlike simply to ignore the rather insignificant infringement of British sovereignty represented by twelve civilians and one flag on a remote and uninhabited stretch of coastline. Their presence was hardly likely to become permanent, and if they left their flag behind them, a party could always have been sent from Grytviken to replace it with the Union Jack. Such a venture would perhaps provide a welcome relief from what one imagines as the somewhat monotonous life of the British Antarctic Survey station.

But matters have gone beyond that point now. Argentina's rulers, beset with economic and political difficulties at home, have leapt at the chance to stage an external confrontation on an issue which unites the Argentine population — at least in the sense that there seems to be only one Argentine opinion

about the rightful sovereignty of the "Malvinas", though there are, no doubt, more than one about the degree of priority the issue deserves, and indeed the proper tactics for handling it. In Britain too, and especially on the Conservative back benches, a somewhat jingoistic note is being struck. The Government cannot afford to appear to be backing down in face of a threat to British sovereignty in the Falkland Islands; and indeed it would be wrong to give Argentina the impression that any sudden Anschluss would go unopposed.

The Government is rightly insisting publicly on its desire for a solution through diplomacy, while strengthening its diplomatic position by giving semi-private hints that British warships, even a nuclear-powered submarine, are on their way. It is hardly likely that the navy could spare such a vessel for permanent garrison duty in the South Atlantic, while to proclaim publicly that it was being sent would be an escalation of the crisis and make it more difficult for the Argentines to back down without losing face. But it makes very good sense to give them the idea that it is somewhere around, and could be used if they overplay their hand.

Airlines survey

From Mr K. E. Mann

Sir, You gave considerable space (March 24) to a report headed "Passengers give thumbs-down to BA" from results of a survey by the International Airline Passengers Association.

May I suggest that the results of this survey are almost worthless — 40,000 of the association's 100,000 members were contacted and 7,000 replied. This response rate is 17.5 per cent and the replies are likely to be very unrepresentative and misleading and your conclusions totally erroneous.

Yours faithfully,
K. E. MANN,
Overseas Market Facts,
77 George Street,
Portman Square, W1.

Identity in question

From Mr A. L. Macfarlane

Sir, The difficulty of identifying participants lies at the centre of the controversy over the recent disturbance at Wormwood Scrubs Prison (report February 25). As far as we are aware no change of procedures has been instituted to overcome similar difficulties in the future.

Uniformed prison staff, unlike police officers, wear no identifying marks other than those signifying rank. It is misleading to suggest, therefore, that the difficulties arising out of the incident at Wormwood Scrubs resulted from the use of riot equipment. Prison staff are not ordinarily identifiable unless personally known to the prisoner

and given the practice of bringing in staff from other establishments; this is seldom the case with major disturbances.

My association recommends that all prison staff, uniformed and civilian, should routinely wear a badge identifying their name and rank. This would protect the interests of staff and prisoners and enhance the policy of accountability of the service emphasized by successive Home Secretaries.

Yours faithfully,
A. L. MACFARLANE, Chairman,
Association of Members of
Boards of Visitors,
18/19 Mounthill Place,
Bath.
Avon
March 24.

Mental Health Bill

From Mr Michael Meacher, MP for Oldham, West (Labour)

Sir, The choice of membership of the Standing Committee of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, which meets for the first time on Tuesday (March 30), reveals an extraordinary selection process by the Government Whips.

It is custom and practice in the Commons that membership of Bill committees is selected, not totally but very largely, from those members who spoke on its second reading. In the case of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, which received its second reading a week ago, backbenchers spoke from the backbenches, all of them with a particular knowledge of and commitment to the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The middle course in UK politics

From Lord Lansdowne

Sir, Your leading article of March 27 in which you welcome, as I do, the return of Mr Roy Jenkins to the Commons where he belongs, seems to me to make an important false assumption. Is it not possible that British politics are moving away from what you call a "basically adversarial culture"?

Certainly, responsibility in politics is about choice. Certainly the electorate and the leaders it puts in office have to choose and be seen to have chosen, but must their choice swing the country so violently from one set of beliefs to another?

Centrism, which presumably means the middle course between two extremes, is surely not the only alternative to those extremes. I welcome the SDP trend in political fashion (its policies are yet to be fully revealed) and although I remain a committed

supporter of the Conservative Party, I do believe in proportional representation; I see the advantages in an "interimable series of coalitions" and I favour circular Chambers for the two Houses of Parliament. In the House of Lords there are, of course, the well-filled and powerful cross benches.

Yours faithfully,
MATTHEW OAKESHOTT,
57 Kennington Road, SE1.
March 30.

From Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall, North (Labour)

Sir, I was interested to see that in the interview in The Times on Tuesday the Liberal leader said it was a caricature to suggest that the SDP was a left-of-centre party with the Liberals pulling the social democrats to the right. If anything it was the other way round, he added.

It has never taken the politician defectors from the Labour Party very long to move much further to the right than the public stance they previously took; the defectors of 1931 were, as we know, virtually indistinguishable shortly afterwards from the Tories and Liberals they then joined in government.

One can certainly understand the enthusiasm which seems to be found in boardrooms and similar places for the SDP; this new political organization has little to do with the article.

The extraordinary view of Hillhead as a good result for Labour clearly does not fool those in the best position to know. Speaking out with the passion and clarity which is an infallible sign of Labour moderates seeing their position under mortal threat, the Hattersleys and Healeys have got it right.

Roy Hattersley's experience in Hillhead was apparently that Labour voters were deeply concerned about the Marxist state, the Militant Tendency, the "hard left" and Tony Benn. My experience from the SDP side of six days' canvassing in the hitherto Labour areas of Scotstoun and Partick West was identical.

Whatever sophistry is employed, for whatever motive, to pretend that Hillhead was a good result for Labour, the facts are clear. Like Croydon, North-West, this was a marginal seat where the Labour performance had been improving steadily at successive general elections. A vigorous campaign was waged by

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.

From Mr Michael Pickering

Sir, Mr Alexander rightly suggests (March 30) a much higher deposit for parliamentary candidates, but may I suggest that this should be accompanied by a much lower qualifying percentage; five per cent does not seem too low since a candidate achieving this is clearly being taken seriously by a significant minority.

It is absurd to place a Scottish nationalist candidate with 11.3 per cent of the votes cast in the same category as the jokers and eccentrics.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PICKERING,
38 Oakwood Road, NW1.
March 30.

This lunacy must stop.

Yours sincerely,
J. A. HUGHES,

(Formerly a leading telegraphist in the (real) Royal Navy)

74 Fairaces,
Prestwood,
Great Missenden,
Buckinghamshire.

From Mr Graham E. Cadman

Sir, May I reassure your correspondent of Monday (March 29) regarding the dismemberment of South Georgia whaling stations that attempts are being made to document and record their passing and that of a unique way of life on this remote island.

The South Georgia Whaling and Sealing Communities Project was established some time ago and aims to record not only the physical remains of the whaling and sealing industries, but also to establish a picture of what day-to-day life was like on the island by interviewing past residents. Earlier this century South Georgia had a transient population of some 2,000 people and the derelict whaling stations are now sole witness of this presence.

The island, discovered and described by Captain James Cook in 1775 as "very mountainous and rocky" and covered with snow... has another important place in history as the setting for the last stage of Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1916 epic journey from Elephant Island after his ship, Endurance, had been lost in the Antarctic ice.

The remains of the whaling stations and of other more temporary settlement sites constitute not only a valuable part of the history of the Falklands but of the UK as well.

It is to be regretted if these sites are seen merely as a source of scrap metal.

Yours etc

GRAHAM E. CADMAN,
Member of South Georgia
Whaling and Sealing
Communities Project,
c/o Northants c.c. Archaeology
Unit,
County Hall,
Northampton.
March 31.

Lack of harmony

From Mr Peter Heyworth

Sir, Just over 21 years ago Klempner took the Philharmonia to Vienna, where they gave a Beethoven cycle (nine symphonies) that was rightly regarded as an unprecedented triumph for British orchestral playing.

Now the managing director of the Philharmonia, among others, invokes "rules" (whose, incidentally?) to prevent a Brahms cycle (four symphonies) that was Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra hopes to give in London under its musical director, Carlo Maria Giulini.

What a sad coming of age!

Yours truly,
PETER HEYWORTH,

32 Bryanston Square, W1.
March 28.

Trade restrictions

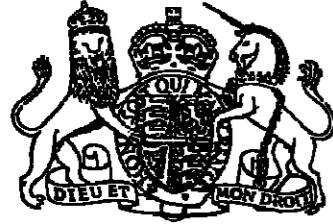
From Mr A. M. Gregg

Sir, While sharing Sir Hugh Casson's opinion (March 29) on the aesthetics of the "hideous advertisements" on London taxis, I do not believe that £40 a quarter makes cab owners "rapacious".

If Sir Hugh had researched further he would have discovered that to go through the royal parks bearing advertisements, the cab trade had to get permission from the Department of the Environment. As long as the advertising agencies offer such infinitesimal amounts there is little danger of the majority of cabs carrying advertisements.

Yours faithfully,

A. M. GREGG,
(London taxi owner/driver)
6 The Avenue,
off St Stephens Road,
Hounslow,
Middlesex.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
March 31: The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, this afternoon opened the new housing development in the Chapter Mews, Windsor.

Having been received by the Dean of Windsor (the Right Reverend Michael Mann) and the Constable and Governor of Windsor Castle (Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir John Grandy), Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque and, with His Royal Highness, toured the development. Lady Abel Smith, Mr Robert Fellowes and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 31: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Conversazione at the Royal Society.

The Hon Mrs John Mulholland, Sir Martin Gillett and Captain Ashe Windham were in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. Poole and Miss G. A. Bowby

The engagement is announced and the marriage will shortly take place between Dominic, younger son of Mr and Mrs Richard Poole, of Ringwood, Hampshire, and Gina, daughter of Major and the Hon. Mr John Bowby, of St Shawfield Street, London, SW3.

Mr P. D. Blanchard and Miss P. A. Constanturos

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Donald Blair, of Luton, Bedfordshire, and Pamela, daughter of Major Basil Constanturos, MBE, RA (Rtd), and Mrs Constanturos, of Half House, Burbage, Wiltshire.

Mr C. D. Evans and Miss N. M. Palmer

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Charles Evans of Plymouth, and Nicola, daughter of His Honour Judge and Mrs Henry Palmer, of Chiswick.

Captain N. L. Hill and Miss E. C. Nunn

The engagement is announced between Nigel Hill, The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, youngest son of Mr and Mrs M. L. Hill, of Eastcombe, Chagford, Devon, and Charlotte, daughter of Major and Mrs J. A. J. Nun, of Pendercombe House, Pendercombe, Somerset.

Mr R. Smith and Miss S. Besford

The engagement is announced between Rodney, son of Commander and Mrs David Templeton, and George, Cape Hornor, and Sheridan, daughter of Dr and Mrs C. P. Besford, of Tokyo, Japan.

Mr C. A. Stansfeld and Dr J. G. Potter

The engagement is announced between Stephen Alfred, eldest son of Dr and Mrs A. G. Stansfeld, of Wildhill, Hatfield, and Jennifer Gae, eldest daughter of Mr B. G. Potter, of Springs, Transvaal, and Mrs M. G. Hammond, of Kloof, Natal.

Mr C. H. Thorburn and Miss J. S. Bitchell

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs M. M. Thorburn of Kilmarnock, and Jill, younger daughter of Mrs J. U. Bitchell, of 44 Marina Court, Jersey.

Mr C. G. L. Hall and Miss A. J. Wardell

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Hall, of Coventry, and Warwickshire, of New York City, and Avril Jacqueline, daughter of the late Mr Eric Wardell and of Mrs Dori Wardell, of Ashtead, Surrey.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 31: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon attended an Evening of Dance and Song given by the English Folk Dance and Song Society, of which Her Royal Highness is President, at Cecil Sharp House.

Mrs Angus Blair was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
March 31: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at a reception to celebrate the Bicentennial, given by the Ambassador of Thailand and the Chairman of the Anglo-Thai Society at Kensington Town Hall.

Her Royal Highness was later present at a dinner and cabaret in aid of Special Olympics UK, a charity offering sport for mentally handicapped people, at the 'Innkeepers' Hall, London, EC2.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

A memorial service for Sir Martin Flett will be held today at St Columba's, Pont Street, at noon.

Claremont House

March 31: The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, this afternoon opened the new housing development in the Chapter Mews, Windsor.

Having been received by the

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Marriages

Mr J. Ragin and Mrs J. King

The marriage took place on March 26 at Ancenis, France, between M. Jean Ragin and Mrs Julie King.

Mr S. M. Willis and Miss R. Schofield

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Shiplake, between Mr Stephen Willis, elder son of Dr H. B. and Mrs M. Willis of Wroxham, Brigg, Lincolnshire, and Miss Victoria Schofield, younger daughter of Vice-Admiral and Mrs B. B. Schofield, of Shiplake, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

McWhirter award for Czech broadcaster

Mr Vladimir Skutina, a Czechoslovak writer and broadcaster who spent five years in prison after translating a book critical of St Mark, North Korea, with special permission for St Nicholas, died yesterday.

The Rev J. King, Vicar of Alkham with Capel-le-Ferne, Kent, and Rev Nigel Fisher, MP (representing the Canterbury and Maidstone Constituency), the Rev Canon Dr. Alan Lewis, Canon Chancellor of Rochester Cathedral, and Rev Canon Dr. Alan Lewis, assistant to the Rev A. J. Lewis, Canon Chancellor of Rochester Cathedral, in his absence, presented the award.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Peter Kenworthy-Browne to be a registrar of the Family Division of the High Court on the retirement of Mr Registrar Caird.

Mr James Farrant to be editor in chief of the International Broadcasting Trust; Mr Hugh Leyte to be general secretary and Mr Paul Gerhardt to be education officer.



Toulouse-Lautrec's portrait of May Belfort, which was sold for £473,000, and his painting of a model resting, which fetched £759,000, at a Sotheby's sale in London

Luncheons

Mr P. Lucas and Miss N. J. Babington

The engagement is announced between Mr and Mrs P. Lucas, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. G. Babington.

Mr G. B. Nicholson and Miss A. M. Holmstrom

The engagement is announced between Geoffrey Nicholson, of Barnes, London, and Madeline Holmstrom, of Stockholm, Sweden.

Mr J. C. Owen and Miss A. D. M. Horsfall

The engagement is announced between Jack, younger son of Mr and Mrs Charles A. Owen, of Indianapolis, Indiana, United States, and Sara, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Horsfall, of Dotheboys St Andrew, Wiltshire.

Mr D. J. Talbot and Miss M. Cameron

The engagement is announced between Dr. John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Talbot, of Smeeth, Kent, and Margaret Manson, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D. G. Cameron, of Dunfermline, Fife.

Mr R. E. Partington and Miss A. M. Monroe

The engagement is announced between Roger Evans, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. E. Partington, of Bridport, Dorset, and Amanda Mary, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs P. A. Monroe, of Blackbrook, Surrey.

Mr C. N. B. Friday and Miss H. Jones

The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mr and Mrs C. B. Friday, of Tedworth Square, SW3, and Helen, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs M. M. Jones, of the Bursar's House, Radley College, Abingdon.

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Birthdays today

Sir Nicholas Henderson, the diplomat, who is 63.

Mr Christopher Bishop, 50;

Viscount Bridgeman, 26; Major-General J. R. C. Hamilton, 76; Sir Paul Hasluck, 77; Mr Tom Jackson, 57; Miss Gail Johnson-Houghton, 41; Baroness McFarlane of Llandaff, 56; Professor M. L. McLachlan, 58; Sir Alan Rouse, 60; Sir Leslie Valley, 57; Mr J. J. Williams, 34.

Memorial service

Sir Ronald Bell, QC, MP

A memorial service for Sir Ronald Bell, QC, MP, was held at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday. Canon Trevor Beeson officiated and the Rev Oscar Muspratt was robed and in the sanctuary. Sir Michael Heseltine, read the lessons and Mr Enoch Powell, MP, gave an address. The Speaker and Lord and Lady Home of the Hirsel attended. Others present included Andrew Bell and Mr Robert Bell (sons); Mr Ian Mrs Graham Mother (son-in-law); Mr and Mrs John Bell (brother); Mr and Mrs Jasper Lee (son); Mr and Mrs Michael Donaldson (son); Mr and Mrs Philip Phillips; Miss Phillipa; Mr N. P. M. Phillips; Miss Philippa; Mr and Mrs M. J. Phillips; Mr and Mrs Michael and Mrs Barbara Pemberton; Mr D. P. d'Ambrum and Mr J. Terraine.

Dinners

Caravan Club

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent were the guests of honour at a dinner held at Guidhill to mark the Caravan Club's Seventy-

Church news

Appointments

The Rev G. Harrison, assistant curate of Christ Church, Spitalfields, and Curate of St Mark, Northgate, with special permission for St Nicholas, died yesterday.

The Rev J. King, Vicar of Alkham with Capel-le-Ferne, Kent, and Rev Nigel Fisher, MP (representing the Canterbury and Maidstone Constituencies), the Rev Canon Dr. Alan Lewis, Canon Chancellor of Rochester Cathedral, in his absence, presented the award.

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The awards are made by the Ross McWhirter awards, presented in London last night.

For seven days after Soviet troops marched into the city, Mr Skutina continued to broadcast, using tramways as aerials.

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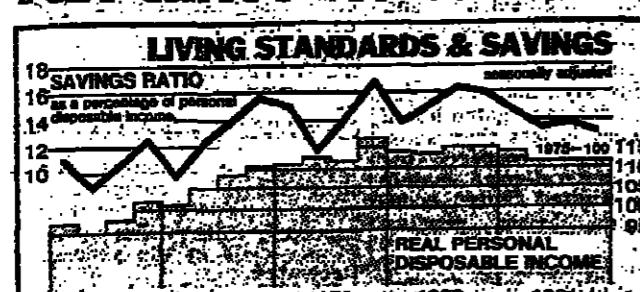
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BUSINESS NEWS

Tax takes its toll



Living standards in Britain fell by 2 per cent in 1981, the first year-on-year fall since 1977, as unemployment rose and higher prices and taxes hit deeply into lower pay increases. The fall was concentrated in the second quarter of 1981 following the Chancellor's tough tax-raising Budget. Living standards — measured by after-tax incomes adjusted for inflation — peaked in the fourth quarter of 1979. So did the savings ratio. In the fourth quarter of 1979, 50 per cent of income saved — at 16.7 per cent. At the end of 1981 it was down to 13.1 per cent.

Strong demand for dollar

There was a flurry of activity in the foreign exchange markets yesterday after the dollar had gained strongly on the Japanese yen in Far East trading overnight. This reflected demand for the dollar, coupled with lack of confidence in Japan's determination to defend its currency. Substantial intervention by the West German and Swiss central banks brought the dollar back down, after it had risen to DM2.42 at one stage. Elsewhere, the Bank of France lowered short-term money rates and the franc traded well above its floor within the European Monetary System.

US store bid accepted

BATUS, the American arm of tobacco group BAT Industries, seems to have succeeded with its tender for the Chicago-based stores group Marshall Field. Its offer of \$30 a share for 65 per cent of Field's 12.4 million shares has been oversubscribed, with holders of 92 per cent accepting. BATUS will increase its \$25.50 offer for the remaining shares to \$30. The Icahn Group, with a 31 per cent holding, has agreed not to frustrate the bid.

Cavendish Life chief resigns

Patrick di Carlo, flamboyant banker and financier, has resigned as chairman of Cavendish Life Assurance, and his interests in the insurance are in the process of being bought out. His resignation follows allegations made by The Observer at the weekend "which are stated by him to be manifestly untrue and which are the subject of contemplated proceedings for defamation," a press statement said yesterday.

MARKET SUMMARY

Celebration for Ladbrooke

opening, and there were gains of 2% in long dates with shorts up to £2 better.

Danobrooke became the third car distributor in as many days to report gloomy trading news, ploughing from profits of £400,000 to pre-tax losses of £450,000. Sales down from 54,000 to 52,000. But Mr Tony Kenny, chairman, says that if closure costs are included there was an improvement of more than £1m and adds that a return to profit was in sight in the present year.

But the real interest is whether British Car Auctions will make a bid after increasing its stake recently. Mr David Wickens, chairman, had said he was waiting for the figures but BCA was not buying in the market yesterday where Dorada was unchanged at 36p.

Elsewhere in equities the gains continued, fuelled by a further round of encouraging statements and exaggerated by stock shortages, with the FT index closing slightly off its best up 6.2 to 568.5.

Ladbrooke Group put on 8p to 189p as the market took good news from Glaxo, up 10p to 526p ahead of interim next week.

Among other leaders, Hawker Siddeley was up better at 308p reflecting news trading news the previous day from British Aerospace, 30 firmer at 194p.

In the gilt market remained thin, with slightly more enthusiasm than in the last few days, despite sterling's weaker

recently discounted.

There should also be good news from Glaxo, up 10p to 526p ahead of interim next week.

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BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Slimmed down and Weir back to profit

Tombs hopes to continue better days

Sir Francis Tombs has found more fat on Weir Group than expected (Sally White writes). As newly esconced chairman, he instituted a rigorous financial fitness campaign and as a result the Glasgow engineering group has started the market by announcing pretax profits of £8.3m against a loss of about the same last year. Market forecasts were for £7m at best, and the share price failed to respond to the good news because analysts were queuing to find out if that performance was sustainable.

Sir Francis said: "We hope to do as well this year as we did last. The improvement was almost entirely generated."

Sales were down, from £165m to £152m. Redundancy costs were also down at £1.3m against £3m. Earnings per share are 15.9p against a loss of 40.7p. The final dividend was 1.75p, making 1.85p.

Sir Francis said that, after the measures of the last two years and the capital reconstruction of last April Weir, still a major force in the foundry industry is now well placed to take advantage of any improvement in trade.

A major area of profits in the past was desalination plant, but the important Middle East market has contracted severely.

Foundries did slightly better in Britain, and exports improved. The company has been looking for new markets for its engineering side and has made headway in supplying oil industry equipment. Lelais Weir, the French associate, has done well with its contracts for heat-exchanges for the nuclear power industry there.

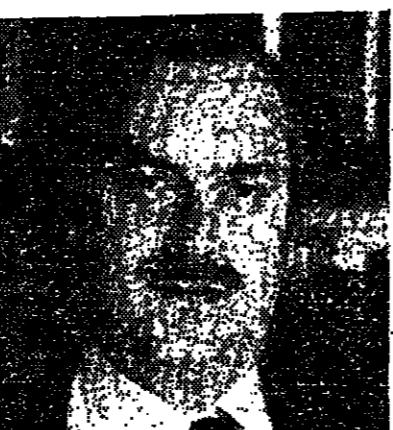
Gearing is now around 45 per cent of shareholder's funds. Weir says the system of cash control introduced throughout the group, with targets for each operating unit, will ensure that the healthier cash flow is maintained.

Even if the world and British economies stay flat, Weir thinks its improvement is sustainable. Weir has moved out of the League of troubled companies with a vengeance.

GRE looks to America

Soaring underwriting losses have left Guardian Royal Exchange showing only a £2m profit rise to £89m pre tax in 1981 (Peter Wilson-Smith writes). But for last May's £76m rights issue, which yielded about £6m extra investment income, and a number of other once-off items, profits would have been several million lower — and worse still at the attributable level, because a £6m fall in the tax charge largely reflects a non-recurring deferred tax release.

Earnings per share have shown a small rise and the dividend has been



Prof Robert Ball, chief of Legal & General, which has done better than hoped

raised by nearly 13 per cent to 25p gross on the enlarged capital, which should help to satisfy shareholders wondering what GRE is doing with the proceeds of last year's cash call.

Finding the right acquisition in the United States has proved more difficult than GRE expected a year ago, and it appears that advanced talks with one American company were called off at a late stage. Given the appalling underwriting conditions worldwide and continuing deterioration in the United States, GRE seems to be casting its net wider.

Investment income last year rose from £99m to £136m, but underwriting losses more than offset this gain, jumping from £10.6m to £48.7m.

Australia and Canada produced the worst horror stories especially after taking account of internal reinsurance, but underwriting results could improve in both areas in 1982. But the United Kingdom, still showing an underwriting profit in 1981, will be much worse this year. Bad weather has already cost about £10m in claims and there is little sign of sanity returning to a fiercely competitive market where rate cutting still abounds.

Whether GRE can really improve the overall underwriting results in 1982 remains to be seen. Meanwhile, a solvency margin of nearly 65 per cent leaves scope for the long-awaited acquisition and at 304p the yield is 8.2 per cent.

While GRE's figures were mildly disappointing, Legal & General — second biggest of the life companies — has done better than hoped. After tax and minorities profits were up by £8m to £24.9m and the dividend has been raised by 44 per cent to 16.6p gross, leaving the shares 17p higher at 5.94p against 6.74p.

The life side has come through strongly with a two-fifths rise to £19.7m, and the first-time inclusion of New York-based Government Employees Life Insurance in 1982 should leave further room for increasing the dividend.

Underwriting losses were nearly a quarter up at £18.9m, with reinsurance largely to blame and Australia — where L&G is no longer writing business — also worse. Investment income rose from £27m to £34m.

BIDS AND DEALS

Dupont has acquired McDowell, Knaggs and Associates and MKA Personnel of Worcester. The MKA companies whose combined asset value is approximately £30,000, provide a range of specialized computer services including sales of microcomputers and systems, software development and personnel recruitment and training. The activities are complementary to those of Dupont's Computer Services subsidiary.

Negotiations are taking place between Tiger Oats and National Milling, Barlow Rand, C G Smith, the South African Mutual Assurance Society and Imperial Cold Storage, which could result in a merger between Tiger and the sugar interests of C G Smith in a new holding company. C G Smith will also acquire a substantial interest in ICS.

Siemens Energy and Hoesch, the German chemical company, have formed a joint company to expand their mutual interests in the oil field service industry.

Hoesch UK is buying 50 per cent of TR Oil Services, a Simon subsidiary which supplies specialist oilfield chemicals and related services to the North Sea and Middle East. Price for the deal was not disclosed. Mr Robert Flammang, managing director of TR, predicted: "the development of chemical techniques which would improve oilfield recovery rates from around 30 per cent to 40 per cent or 50 per cent."

Hoechst UK today disclosed its latest first year rose 13.5 per cent to £44.9m and profit after interest, tax, minorities and extraordinary items totalled £5.1m against a loss of £3.5m in 1980 when there had been an extraordinary charge of £6.8m including redundancies.

For the same reason, it does not expect to raise the half-year dividend for 1982 over the 6.42p gross paid last year.

On trading profit, which fell from £8.4m to £8.1m, the company said only 42 per cent of the total came from cigarette filter operations against 71 per cent in 1980. Profit from merchandising operations rose to 33 per cent from 15 per cent last time.

The company said yesterday that though the final dividend has been raised on the 1980 pay-out, part of the increase is a step towards correcting the wide disparity between interim and final dividends.

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Net cash balances rose during the year from £5m to £6.5m, in spite of the 1981 acquisitions, the company says. There is access to adequate outside and internally generated funds to carry on the planned development programme, it says.

MOLINS

Profit hopes

Action by Molins to restructure its tobacco machinery and packaging businesses should see the group return closer to former earnings levels this year.

But pretax profits slumped by 11m to £7.3m in the year to December, the third year in which profits have fallen but in line with group forecasts.

However, the shares responded with a 7p rise to 170p. The final dividend has been marginally increased from 18p per cent to 18.106p.

Kulin (Malaysia) said the group profit after tax was 33 per cent to 6.5m ringgit for the year. The decline was due to losses at its associated company's palm oil refinery and rubber processing and hotel companies.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Cie Generale de Geophysique (CGG), a French geophysical prospecting company, reported a 13.1 per cent growth in income last year to Fr340.8m. This includes Fr35m capital gains from restructuring its United States activities.

Societe Generale de Belgique announced 1981 losses of Fr2,600m, compared with profits of Fr923m the previous year and a cut of Fr35 in its dividend to Fr90.

It blamed the poor performance on its merger with the Union Miniere mining and investment group, which had losses of Fr2,600m and the difficulties of the new operation in Syria.

First Syria is reported to have lost Fr4,700m in a contract to build a fertilizer plant and phosphate mine there.

Profit after tax and payment of interest and minority interests but before extraordinary payments dropped 81 per cent in 1981 to \$A 10.85m, the British Petroleum Co of Australia said. Group turnover rose 18 per cent to \$A 21.06m.

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Croda 1981 results

Unaudited: 1981 £000 1980 £000

Sales: 277,725 275,802

Profit: Croda Chemicals International 5,394 3,166

Croda World Traders 3,013 1,229

Croda Organic Chemicals 583 2,961

Croda Polymers International 4,231 4,904

Surplus on disposal of investments and properties 823 939

Profit before interest 14,044 13,198

Interest 3,918 5,762

Profit before tax 10,126 7,437

Profit after tax 6,316 7,190

Extraordinary items 2,183 1,752

Net profit available to ordinary shareholders 4,091 5,366

Earnings per 10p share 5.94p 6.74p

Ordinary dividends per share Proposed final (payable 1 July 1982) 2.25p 1.6p

Making total for the year 3.75p 3.1p

Croda

Copies of Report and Accounts available on and after 1 May 1982 from the Secretary

Croda International Plc Cowick Hall, Snaith Goole, North Humberside DN14 9AA

ESTABLISHED 1826 AND STILL AN INDEPENDENT COMPANY

CRODA

£1/2m cost of defending Burmah bid

Croda announced pretax profits for last year up from £7.43m to £10.12m. After its successful battle to fight off Burmah Oil's takeover bid, it has already forecast another big jump in profits this year to £16m and indicated that, under good trading conditions, it could produce £30m.

The figures reveal the cost of the defense against Burmah — £550,000.

Croda's share price barely changed, given the group's forecasts. At 82p the yield is 6.6 per cent. The final dividend is 2.25p, making 3.75p against 3.1p. Sales are up at £27.7m against £25.8m. Earnings per share are 5.94p against 6.74p.

Profit of Croda Chemicals International were up from £3.1m to £5.4m; on Croda World Traders they rose from £1.2m to £3m. Croda Organic Chemicals profits rose from £2.9m to £5.3m. Croda Polymers International saw profits drop from £4.9m to £4.2m. Interest payments were down from £5.7m to £3.9m.

The Burmah offer for Croda lapsed at the beginning of last month. The dividend forecast was held to be a substantial reason for Sir Freddie Wood's success in keeping his company independent. The market may now be cautious while it waits to see how trading is doing at the interim stage.

BUNZI

Dividend raised

Bunzl, the paper, packaging and cigarette filter group, has increased pretax profits only marginally from £11.14m to £11.59m for the year to December 1981. Sales rose substantially to £245.65m from £169.52m last year, largely as a result of the sales contribution from Intercontinental Cellulose Sales which became a Bunzl subsidiary after being an associate, during the year.

Jersey Paper, which was bought at the end of April 1981 for £3.5m also contributed its share to the increased turnover.

Dividends have been increased from 4.31p gross to 8.52p per share with a total payout for the year of 11.42p gross, against 10.32p last time.

The company said yesterday that though the final dividend has been raised on the 1980 pay-out, part of the increase is a step towards correcting the wide disparity between interim and final dividends.

For the same reason, it does not expect to raise the half-year dividend for 1982 over the 6.42p gross paid last year.

On trading profit, which fell from £8.4m to £8.1m, the company said only 42 per cent of the total came from cigarette filter operations against 71 per cent in 1980.

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Profit after tax

BUSINESS NEWS

INTERNATIONAL



UNITED STATES

Silkolene shares rose 180p; where they yield 1.8 per cent, on the increased dividend. Burnett & Hall are and Brown, Shipton have a 10 per cent stake by Croda International last year of its 20 per cent holding.

BOWTHORPE

Sound growth

Bowthorpe Holdings, the electronic components group, has fared better than expected, with profits up 10 per cent in the year to December. The Sussex-based group recorded pre-tax profits of £1.4m, against £9.05m, turnover which climbed nearly £10m to £63.5m. With news of a final dividend of 4.87p, against 4.2p, the group's shares jumped to 230p, the high for the year.

Bowthorpe says that all its business improved last year.

The United Kingdom saw growth from its customers in telecommunications, service and military industries.

There was flat demand for products in the consumer durable and car industries. A cent deal with British Telecom for closure systems valued at £1m.

Bowthorpe has more than half its business overseas.

In South African, US rates and Japanese markets improved trading.

Shares of profits in associate companies rose 100,000 to £1.7m and are attributable to £3.6m. Earnings per share are up to 11.5p.

Dorada Holdings, the motor vehicles, distribution, engineering and merchandising group, has announced a revised £10.5m for the year to December 25, up from £10.2m in turnover.

The company, after a period of relative stability, has seen a sharp rise in sales.

Its profit margin has risen from 14.2% to 15.2%.

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BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY **BELL'S**

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities advance

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 29. Dealings End, April 16.; Contango Day, April 19. Settlement Day, April 26.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

is going
Faldo

Greensboro, March 31
I know how irksome it
just be for members to see
professional tennis hitting hundreds of
millions of dollars. I'm also keen to find a
place in America to live in
instead of living only in metal
in a major airport where you can't get
to Europe and in and out of
the United States easier.

This prospect is very much my
while standing with him by the
lead last Saturday. The players
would have won the tournament
of furniture, and Mrs Faldo
hadn't seen her husband off to
Europe before he left.

Faldo flew his tea set, his
the guard's lake house,
a stroke of apparent
straight at the tennis
displayed on a poster which
he had stuck in the green when
he had just won the
court surface.

"I was trying to catch you
on the next," Mrs Faldo told
her husband as he strode past.
"You looked
than," her husband replied.
"The furniture
you've done, he'd
all about it."

The furniture was won by
Beck whose husband
and a half feel away.
Osterham is also playing
With three homes, he'd
furniture too.

eed to show
form at Deal
Ryde

much as from the age
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The 30-year-old Faldo
has now won four
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d for up to ten years
to contact Dr. G. G. A.
and addressed to the
Board of Management
12, 12th Floor, 100 New

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London W1 1DQ

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JESUS ANSWERED. Are there not twelve hours in the day? Is it not night? Is it not day? Is not light of this world?" St. John 12: 9.

BIRTHS

ACWORTH.—On 11th March, at Birmingham Maternity Hospital, a son, Christopher McDonald, and a daughter, Sophie McDonald.

FAIRFAXES.—On 20th March, at Phillips' (see Garry) and James Farrow's wedding, a son, Matthew, March 10, at St. Luke's Hospital, Salford.

FAVRE.—On 20th March, at St. Luke's Hospital, Salford.

FURNESS-SMITH.—On 20th March, at Phillips' (see Garry) and James Farrow's wedding, a son, Matthew, March 10, at St. Luke's Hospital, Salford.

SELLS.—On March 20th, at Westminster Hospital, a son, Philip, a son, March 19, to Susan and James Sells.

WILLIAMS.—On March 20th, to William and Gillian Williams, and Jeremy, a daughter, Nicola, Williams, and a son, William, March 19, to Michael David Scott.

PETERSON.—On 20th March, at St. Peter's Church, and Philip, a son, Michael Henry.

MARRIAGE

GOLDEN WEDDING.—SMITH : DOBELL.—On 19th April, at Worcester Cathedral, Oxford, Eric Smith to Enid Dobell.

DEATHS

AYCOCKS.—On 20th March, and 21st March, at home, Professor Norman Aycocks, M.A., Funeral arrangements.

BUTTHILL.—On March 20th, Alderman Butthill, wife of the late William Tampinville, Police, and mother of Joyce, deceased, at home, telephone 42960.

CORINNE DENISE.—The wife of Charles de Lorraine, France on 20th March, 1982.

DUGGAN.—On 20th March, 1982, deceased, at home, Mrs. Duggan, wife of the late William Duggan, father of 10 years, of Carlton Rd., Redhill. In memory of Redhill.

GOULD.—On 20th March, 1982, deceased, at home, Mrs. Mary Gould, mother of Judie, Linda, and Christopher, and grandmothers of her husband's Part, Cranbrook, Kent. Memorial donations to Cancer Research.

LOTHOUSE.—Suddenly on March 20th, 1982, at home, Mr. Alan Lothouse, 32, "Lavender," 16, Greenbank, Bank Avenue, Manchester M9.

MARLEY.—On March 20th, peacefully at Foxley Lodge, N.H., Mrs. Elizabeth Marley, widow of Frank Marley, and mother of 67-year-old Dr. Keith Alcock, formerly of Maryland, U.S.A. Funeral Services on Thursday, April 1st, at 1.30 p.m. at St. George's Crematorium, London.

MORRISON.—On 20th March, 1982 at home, Frederick George Morrison, 80, of Cambridge, in his 40th year, of Threewell College, Cambridge, and of the late Mr. and Mrs. Barbara, and of the late Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, father and grandfather. Cremation services, Tel. 01-874 4000.

ROBERTS.—ELIZABETH.—On 19th March, in Simmers, aged 80, beloved wife of the late Captain McLean, of Pucks Hill, and of the Royal Engineers, Companion Service, Compton Church, near Sandhurst, Friday, April 2nd.

RHODES.—On 20th March, Dr. Edward Rhodes, 80, of Kensington, died peacefully at home. Private family funeral. No flowers.

ROBERTS.—On 20th March, 1982, at Kingston Hospital, Edward Lewis, and BSA Service, Hulme Rd., Kingston, 3.30 p.m.

WHINNEY.—On 20th March, 1982, peacefully at St. Peter Whinney, from Frank Whinney, respectfully at St. Peter Whinney, dear, loved by her children and grandchildren, and great grandchildren, and great grandchildren, of the late Mr. and Mrs. Whinney, for Thanksgiving, at home, Wednesday April 6th, 2.30 p.m.

WILLIAMS.—On 20th March, 1982, at Kingstone Hospital, Edward Lewis, and BSA Service, Hulme Rd., Kingstone, 3.30 p.m.

YOUNG.—On 20th March, 1982, peacefully at St. Peter Whinney, respectfully at St. Peter Whinney, dear, loved by her children and grandchildren, and great grandchildren, and great grandchildren, of the late Mr. and Mrs. Whinney, for Thanksgiving, at home, Wednesday April 6th, 2.30 p.m.

ZACHARIAH.—On 20th March, 1982, at Kingstone Hospital, Edward Lewis, and BSA Service, Hulme Rd., Kingstone, 3.30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMAGINATIVE COOK.—See Exp. business lunches, etc. See ADVERTISING.

HOUSING.—Offered for responsible domestic help. See Dom. Help.

OUT THINGS.—For the donation of many of their anonymous, which help keep the College alive. Without the College, the students would benefit from the high British culture. The College also offers courses in dentistry, orthopaedics, arthritis, asthma, birth defects, blindness, transplantation, thrombosis and other diseases. The College has been founded by its founders, and great grandchildren, and great grandchildren, of the late Mr. and Mrs. Whinney, for Thanksgiving, at home, Wednesday April 6th, 2.30 p.m.

PLATE.—H-How do you find like this? Kindly, sarsaparilla, taking the right out of my throat with my riper friends. C-C-Carsonova.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS****DESPERATELY SEARCHING FOR MR. TOM ROBSON**

who arrived in London from New York on TWA's flight 700. This is very urgent. Please call FO GERLECKI,

5541 North Delaware, Chicago, Illinois 60656, U.S.A. Phone: (312) 939-5931.

SARONNE de D-Pearl confection Le Grand Omer, 6033 94200, France. Tel. 03 80 21 12 12.

VEDETTE.—See Horizons, page 1.

WAVES.—Shandy at Oscar's, meet your host. See Wave & Dine.

WINE AND DINE

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Cognitive Maps.
7.05 Disaster Simulation 1: The Event; 7.30 Mineral Processing; 7.55 Closedown; 11.30 News for Schools; Colleges: The Welsh Chartist; Part 3: Aftermath; 11.50 Closedown; 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Linda Alexander. The weather prospects come from Michael Hirst; 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only); Financial Report and news headlines with subtitles; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Tony Bilton in conversation with film star Tippi Hedren, as famous for her "Hollywood jungle" in which she keeps lions and tigers as she is for her acting; 1.45 Mr Bean: A Day Out. Gubbins introduces the Labroke Topman Trophy Handicap Chase (2.35); the Super Kitchens Novices Chase (3.10); the Holiday Inn Hurdle (3.45); and the Hennessy Whisky Foxhunters Chase (4.20). The commentators are Peter O'Sullivan, Julian Wilson, Richard Pilman and John Hammer.

3.55 Play School. For the under-tives (shown earlier on BBC2).
4.20 Cartoon: Secret Squirrel in Scuba Duba-Duba (2).
4.25 Jackanory. Ruta Leskela reads a Polish folk story, Gavel and King Hobnail.
4.40 The Beautiful Green Bird. A story told by Garard Green (r).
5.00 John Craven's Newsround.
5.10 Blue Peter. The results of the design an outfit for Peter Duncan competition.
5.35 The Pershers with the voice of Leonard Rossiter (r).
5.40 News; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.25 Nationwide.
6.55 Tomorrow's World. More scientific wonders of the future presented by Judith Hann, Kieran Prendiville and Peter Macann.
7.20 Top of the Pops presented by John Peel. The latest hit records unconvincingly mimed.
8.00 The Kenny Everett Television Show. Fast moving comedy.
8.30 Love Story: Love is Old, Love is New. Part two of a serial about a couple trying desperately to have children.

9.00 News.
9.25 Badger by Owl-light. The first episode of a three-part thriller about a mysterious religious sect. A young man deliberately blows himself up in a Kamikaze attack on a young girl driving a car. The father of the girl hires Peter Talton to find out why. Starring Cavan Kendall as the investigator.
10.15 Question Time chaired by Robin Day. In the firing line tonight are Trade Unionist, Terry Marsland and MPs John Smith, Norman St John-Stevens and Mike Thomas.
11.15 A Kick up the Eighties. Richard Stilgoe leads a talented cast in an anarchic look at this week's subject — Sex (r).
11.43 News headlines.
11.45 So You Want to Stop Smoking. Advice for those who want to give up the deadly weed. Presented by Miriam Stoppard (r).
11.55 Weather.



Court of Appeal

Dividing unmarried couple's property

Bernard v Josephs
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Griffiths and Lord Justice Kerr [Judgment delivered March 30]

The Court of Appeal in reserved judgments gave guidance on the problems raised by two people who had lived together without getting married and had acquired a house in their joint names subsequently separated.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by the defendant, Mr David Josephs, of 118a Dunstan's Road, Camberwell, London ("house"), from judge Mervyn Davies, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge on July 17, 1980, who on the application of the plaintiff, Miss Maria Teresa Bernard, of Thurloe Street, Southwark, London, awarded the house to the defendant in the house was held in equal shares between the parties and made an order under section 30 of the Law of Property Act 1925 for its sale within four months.

The order made by the judge was varied by directing that the order for sale of the house was not to be enforced if Mr Josephs paid £6,000 to Miss Bernard within four months; and that on payment that sum she should receive her share in the house to him.

Section 30 of the Law of Property Act 1925 provides: "If the trustees for safe sale to sell . . . or any requisite consent cannot be obtained, any person interested may apply to the court for an order . . . for sale . . . and the court may make such order as it thinks fit".

Mr John Speed for Mr Josephs; Mr William Stanton for Miss Bernard.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in August 1973 when she was 21 Miss Bernard became engaged to Mr Josephs who was 30, and, unknown to her, a married man, not yet divorced. They arranged to live in 177 Dunstan's Road and set up home together. It was conveyed into their joint names with no declaration of trust or October 21, 1973.

The purchase price was £11,750, the whole of which was raised on a council mortgage. They both signed the legal charge and each paid some of the initial expenses. They let off much of the house to tenants. Both worked and their earnings paid for the outgoings.

In July 1976 Miss Bernard left. She said that he had been violent. Mr Josephs stayed on in the house.

Following divorce from his lawful wife, he married another woman and took her to live with him in the house.

Miss Bernard applied for the house to be sold and for one-half of the proceeds.

BBC 2

5.40 Open University: Poisons that Paralyse 7.05 What Price the Workers? 7.30 Crystals 7.55 Closedown 11.00 Play School. For the under-fives presented by Lucia Skeaping and Ben Bazzell. The story is Uncle Daniels is the Fisherman 11.25 Closedown 2.20 Racing from Altnure, the last race of the Grand National meeting. Guy Gubbin introduces the Labroke

Trophies Handicap Chase (2.35); the Super Kitchens Novices Chase (3.10); the Holiday Inn Hurdle (3.45); and the Hennessy Whisky

Foxhunters Chase (4.20). The commentators are Peter O'Sullivan, Julian Wilson, Richard Pilman and John Hammer.

4.35 Jump Run. The beauty of skydiving (r).
4.50 Caught in Time. A home movie of a holiday in Skye (r).
4.25 Jackanory. Ruta Leskela reads a Polish folk story, Gavel and King Hobnail.
4.40 The Beautiful Green Bird. A story told by Garard Green (r).
5.00 John Craven's Newsround.
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5.35 The Pershers with the voice of Leonard Rossiter (r).
5.40 News; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.25 Nationwide.
6.55 Tomorrow's World. More scientific wonders of the future presented by Judith Hann, Kieran Prendiville and Peter Macann.
7.20 Top of the Pops presented by John Peel. The latest hit records unconvincingly mimed.
8.00 The Kenny Everett Television Show. Fast moving comedy.
8.30 Love Story: Love is Old, Love is New. Part two of a serial about a couple trying desperately to have children.

9.00 Call My Bluff. Robert Robinson with another selection of rarely used words for Arthur Marshall and Frank Muir and their team-mates to attempt to define.
9.30 Heart Transplant. The second of a seven-part documentary filmed at the Harefield Hospital, Ruislip staff but not for the squeamish.
10.10 Haydn Festival. From Tredegar House, Newport, Gwent, the Amadeus String Quartet play the String Quartet in C, Op 76 No 3.
10.45 Newsnight.
11.30 The Old Grey Whistle Test. Anne Nightingale presents Teardrop Exploses in a concert recorded at London's Riverside Studios. Ends at 12.15

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Geography Today. Glacial deposits in the Swiss Alps and the Water borders 9.50 Film: The Young Pioneers (1976) starring Roger Kern and Linda Purp. The story follows newlyweds setting up home in unchartered Dakota during the 1870s 11.25 Paint Along with Nancy, Spring in the Park (r) 11.55 The Bubblefish. For the very young (r) 12.00 The Woof. An story told by Michael Parkinson 12.10 Get us a God! For the under-fives presented by Beryl Reid 12.30 The Sullivans. Drama series about an Australian family during World War Two 1.00 News with Peter Sissons 1.20 Thames news 1.30 Crown Court. Concluding the case against Jennifer Hollings, accused of harming her son 2.00 After Noon Plus Trevor Hyett talks to Journalist Neil Ascherson about his recent trip to Poland and his biography of Lech Walesa 2.45 International Showjumping from the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham 3.45 The Cuckoo Waltz. Comedy series about a reporter and his wife (r).

4.15 Cartoon: Dr Snuggles in The Great Disappearing Mystery (r).
4.20 Little House on the Prairie. Adventures of the Ingalls family. This afternoon Charles takes young James on a long journey. They meet a half-wild dog that takes an immediate dislike to Charles but adores James.
5.15 Emmerdale Farm. Amos writes an article for the local paper which leads to complications.
5.45 News: 6.00 Thames news with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter; 6.30 Thames Sport with Derek Thompson, Alan Taylor and Simon Reed.
7.00 Looks Familiar. Denis Norden and his guests, Alan Dell, Bob Monkhouse, and Buddy Rich, look back to the music and other entertainment of the 1930s and 40s.
7.30 Rising Damp. Comedy series set in a seedy lodging house owned by Rigby (Leonard Rossiter). Tonight he borrows a suit to go to the party — without the owner's permission. (r)
8.00 Falcon Crest. Drama serial set against the background of California's vineyards. Starring Jane Wyman as the all-powerful and greedy Angie Channing.

9.00 Shelley. Comedy series about an indolent graduate. This evening he meets up with an old University chum but they soon realise that they have nothing in common anymore.
9.30 TV Eye. The Death of Neil Aspinall. An investigation, secretly filmed in South Africa, into the circumstances which led to white trade union organiser, Neil Aspinall, being found hanged in his Johannesburg cell after being detained without trial in solitary confinement for seventy days.
10.00 News.
10.30 Danger UXB. Hitler causes another headache for the bomb disposal experts.
11.30 International Show-jumping. Highlights from the Birmingham Championships at the National Exhibition Centre.
12.30 What the Papers Say presented by Simon Hoggart.
12.45 Close with the Dean of Guildford, Tony Bridge musing on a painting.

© A WINTER'S DAY (BBC 2 7.55pm) is a gentle reminder — as if we needed it — of our harsh winter. The day in question is Wednesday January 13. The country was covered with snow and ice and, to make matters worse, it was the first day of the ASLEF industrial action. How did we spend that day? Five BBC camera crews went to different parts of the country to see how we coped with adversity. The result is a silent tribute to the resilience of the British. Camera crews descended on Basset Fen where quicksilverly organised skaters had hastily arranged the British Speed Skating Championships; to Lord Bath's estate at Longleat where strangers to our cold, snow and ice walked patiently for their lunch in the Safari Park; to Wates to watch the efforts of snow ploughmen as they struggled to reach the isolated village of Alberdon on the Llyn Peninsula; to Braemar where local children took the chance to have a skiing lesson; and to Kew Gardens. A delight-to-the-eye film which profits greatly from having no commentary.

© BADGER BY OWL-LIGHT (BBC 1 9.25pm) is a new three-part psychological thriller by Eddie Boyd and made by BBC Scotland. The story starts explosively with a young man clumsy blowing himself up in a London street along with a dozen passers-by as well as the intended victim — a young girl driving a car. Why did he do it? Peter Talton, played stylishly by Cavan Kendall who

was last seen in the BBC serial Blood Money, is commissioned by the girl's father to find out the truth behind the killing and to eliminate the perpetrators. His investigations take him to rural Scotland where he joins a community in order to infiltrate a religious sect with a penchant for destroying churches.

© THE BOOK OF THE AXE (Radio 4 9.10pm) is a personal appraisal of the legend of the axe through which the River Axe flows. It is both written and narrated by Michel Reiper but it is really the work of George Putman, a 19th-century West Country newspaperman and fisherman. He drew upon the inspiration of the river to write The Book of the Axe — a tome of legends and local history but essentially a countryman's panegyric to the sport of angling.

CHOICE

they could be settled by agreement.

Such cases about the homes of couples living together were so similar to those of husband and wife that they should be dealt with in the Family Division.

LODGE JUSTICE GRIFFITHS said that the legal principles by which the problem before the court was to be solved were to be found in Perrin v Perrin ([1970] AC 777) and Gissing v Gissing ([1971] AC 856). The interests of the parties must be determined by the application of the law relating to trusts.

In law they held the house on trust for sale and could apply to the court under section 30 of the Law of Property Act 1925. When the house was conveyed into joint names and the conveyance contained an express declaration of the character of the title, that was decisive. Godwin v Bedwill (The Times, March 10, 1982).

As between husband and wife when the house was in joint names and there was no declaration of trust, the shares were usually to be apportioned according to their respective contributions and all the circumstances of the case, see Hine v Hine (1962) 1 WLR 1124, 1132.

The order made by the judge was varied by directing that the house should be held in other evidence placed before him and to decide whether it indicated an intention by the parties that the beneficial ownership of the house was to be held in other than equal shares.

The legal principles were the same whether the dispute was between married or unmarried couples, but the nature of the relationship between the parties was a very important factor when considering what inferences should be drawn from the way they conducted their affairs.

Only if the relationship was intended to involve the same degree of commitment as marriage would it be legitimate to regard unmarried persons as having the same rights as if they were married.

If the conveyance dealt with the beneficial ownership and defined the shares it was conclusive; see Jones v Challenger ([1961] 1 QB 176) and Baden v Baden ([1965] 2 QB 665).

In the present case the court had arrived at the order proposed by the Master of the Rolls.

It was to be hoped that it would be acceptable to the parties to provide an acceptable basis for the resolution of similar cases in the future.

Under section 30 of the Law of Property Act 1925 provides: "If the trustees for safe sale to sell . . . or any requisite consent cannot be obtained, any person interested may apply to the court for an order . . . for sale . . . and the court may make such order as it thinks fit".

Mr John Speed for Mr Josephs; Mr William Stanton for Miss Bernard.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in August 1973 when she was 21 Miss Bernard became engaged to Mr Josephs who was 30, and, unknown to her, a married man, not yet divorced.

They arranged to live in 177 Dunstan's Road and set up home together. It was conveyed into their joint names with no declaration of trust or October 21, 1973.

The purchase price was £11,750, the whole of which was raised on a council mortgage. They both signed the legal charge and each paid some of the initial expenses. They let off much of the house to tenants. Both worked and their earnings paid for the outgoings.

Following divorce from his lawful wife, he married another woman and took her to live with him in the house.

Miss Bernard applied for the house to be sold and for one-half of the proceeds.

2% interest on damages for lost years

Goodall v Hall
In a claim under the Fatal Accidents Act and the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1974, Mr Barry Chadow QC sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench on March 26, based his assessment of damages payable under the 1974 Act for "lost years" on the surplus of the deceased's earnings after deduction of such expenses as would have secured for him a reasonably enjoyable life with vacant possession.

But it would be a great hardship on Mr and Mrs Joseph if they were to be forced to leave their home so that it could be sold with vacant possession.

Because Miss Bernard through his Lordship, following Birken Hayes, (*The Times*, March 18, 1982), ordered that interest on the agreed sum of £1250 for loss of expectation of life should be at the rate of 2 per cent.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said that Miss Bernard had been

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Forecast Today.
6.30 Today.
6.53 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 A Good Night Out. Lauri Taylor tries his hand in the County.

10.00 News.
10.02 Town Hall Rules OK? Nigel Raas continues his investigation of how local government works.

10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Missing Masterpiece? Michael Edwards reviews a film by S. Eisenstein.

11.00 News Travel.
11.05 File On 4. Major Issues and Events at home and abroad.

11.50 English Within. Listeners' questions.

12.00 News.

12.05 Yes and Yours. Consumer advice.

12.27 News of Britain 1982-1. The World at One News.

1.40 The Archers.

2.00 Women's Hour.

3.02 Afternoon Theatre. "The Other Side of the Coin" by J. C. W. Broek.

4.00 Home Base. People and places that didn't make the national headlines.

4.15 Bookshelf. Magazine programme about books.

4.45 Story Time: "The Last Report on Don Quixote" by Pamela Hansford Johnson.

5.00 PM News Magazine.

6.00 The Six O'Clock News, including Financial Report.

6.30 News at Ten.

6.54 It's a Bargain. Getting value for money.

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.20 American Concert, direct from the Barbican Centre, City of London Part 1: Roy Harris, Bernstein.

8.00 Separated by the Sea: The Long Distance Relationship. A programme by the 6.55's comment on England and America.

8.20 Concert Part 2: Nees, Ger shawn t.

9.10 The Book of the Axe. Michael Morpurgo's book celebrating the River Axe in the West Country.

9.30 Kaleidoscope.

10.00 The World Tonight News.

10.30 Today in Parliament.

12.00 News: Weather Report Forecast.

12.15 Shopping Forecast; Inshore Waters Forecast.

ENGLAND: VHF, with 11 above except as follows: 6.25-6.30 Weather.

6.35-6.55 Programmes with Mother.

6.55-7.00 News.

7.00-7.15 Weather.

Blame France for EEC delay says Thatcher

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher told the House of Commons yesterday that there would be no agreement on proposals for changing the Common Agricultural Policy or on the industrial and social affairs of the European Economic Community until the British Government gave what it wanted on the size of Britain's net contribution to the EEC budget.

The Prime Minister's words also implied clearly that a settlement on European farm prices was likely to be held up as a result of the failure to reach agreement at the EEC summit. She placed the blame on the failure to agree on these matters squarely on the shoulders of the French and on President Mitterrand in particular.

In a statement to the House she told MPs that all the countries of the Community were disappointed and surprised at the attitude of the French Government.

To congratulations from a Labour MP for her patience, Mrs Thatcher agreed that she was extraordinarily patient provided that she got her way in the end. To another MP she replied that everything she had said at the EEC summit in Brussels was fully justified, "as it usually is".

Mrs Thatcher said that the United Kingdom and most other member states were prepared to accept the compromise formula put forward by Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission and Mr Leo Tindemans, Belgian External Relations Minister, as basis for negotiation.

The Prime Minister told the House that she had underlined the conclusion that the Community had reached in London in November that decisions on all aspects of the mandate must be taken together on the budget, the CAP and industrial and social affairs. At that point she said, the President of France stated that he would not accept the compromise formula as a basis for discussion.

Later, to questions from MPs, Mrs Thatcher told the House that it was not only a question of getting a result on the Budget.

"We cannot go ahead with the proposals on the CAP and on the other matters, unless we get an agreement on the budget. The three must go along together and unless we get reasonable budget results



Undignified exit: Police try to close a prison van door during protests in Buenos Aires.

Protesters held in Argentina

Buenos Aires, March 31.—The Argentine Government said 400 people were still detained today after big demonstrations against economic austerity measures yesterday, but gave no figure for the total number of arrests. Newspaper reports put the number at well over 2,000 in the capital alone.

Colonel Bernardo Menéndez, the Deputy Interior Minister, said that many of those still detained would be released shortly after identity checks and that the situation throughout the country today was normal.

Some people were wounded, two of them seriously, when police opened fire on about 500 demonstrators in Mendoza, 650 miles west of Buenos Aires, according to news reports, which could not be officially confirmed.

The demonstrations were called by the outdated General Confederation of Labour (CGT) trade union organization to protest at the right-wing military Government's economic policies — Reuter:

Farm price talks, page 6
Leading article, letters, page 11

Anglo-US battle for RAF contract

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

British and American companies are involved in a battle in Whitehall to sell a sophisticated radar defence suppression system to the Royal Air Force.

Initially, a £100m contract, which would safeguard thousands of jobs in aerospace, is at stake.

The RAF has told the Government it wants its new generation of Tornado fighters armed with an anti-radar missile capability when the planes enter service in the mid-eighties.

Two groups have submitted bids for the work and the battle promises to be as vigorous as that between British and American companies for the supply of the Royal Navy's new heavy weight torpedo last year.

British Aerospace is lobbying for its system known as ALARM—Air Launched Anti-Radar Missile—which it developed with the GEC subsidiary, Marconi Space

and Defence Systems. The rival system, HARM—High Performance Anti-Radar Missile—is being offered by Texas Instruments in association with Lucas Aerospace. If the Government opted for the American system, Lucas would expect to win a large amount of sub-contract work for British firms.

During yesterday's committee hearing, Industry Department officials were questioned about the level of consultation with the Defence Ministry about preserving a British capability in key areas of defence spending.

Officials said they knew of the RAF's proposals, but insisted that its requirement had not been completed.

The Department's memorandum to the select committee outlining its role and relationship with the Defence Ministry was described by Dr John Gilbert, a former Labour junior Defence Minister, as nothing more than a set of pious platitudes

Frank Johnson in the Commons

A stupendous statesman draped on a bench

Yesterday, within 24 hours of his return, he made the first intervention of his new Parliamentary career. This occasioned a scene of almost uncontrollable excitement otherwise known as Mr Dennis Skinner.

Eventually he rose. Whereupon there was a disturbance on the bench immediately below him. This disturbance went, of course, by the name of Mr Skinner.

A contrapuntal mutter arose from Mr Skinner consisting of: Money, the European Commission, people who do all right for themselves, and related symbols.

The Speaker intervened. Mr Jenkins resumed his seat. "The hon Member was shouting," said the Speaker. "This House stands for free speech." (It also stands for shouting.)

Mr Jenkins got going again. Alas, it turned out that he wanted to talk about microchips. Worse, he talked about microchips at prodigious length. At the word "secondly" renewed civil commotion broke out on the bench below. Mr Skinner's friends, Mr Cryer and Mr Canavan, joined him in cries of "too long" and "what does he know about it?"

This last was a fair point. From all we know of Mr Jenkins, he could not fix a light bulb, let alone a microchip.

"Get back to the gutter," Mr Neville Sanderson shouted at Mr Canavan. (Mr Sanderson is a prominent moderate.) Mr Jenkins still as they say, heavily into microchips. But suddenly broadened it out to European movement: Marxist guerrillas, dubious elections, subversion. Merribly, he battered Mrs Thatcher for lending support to the grotesque farce of the election in El Salvador. "On and on he went about the wretched place."

From his point of view, it was a much more romantic subject than the details of the EEC budget contributions. These he did address himself to for a while. But the difficulties there was that Mrs Thatcher was being as defiant towards the European powers as it was possible to be, short of troop movements.

Mr Jenkins sat through all this in a stupendously statesmanlike pose, draped across the Liberal bench. His chin

was from time to time balanced in the palm of one hand, the fingers of which were somehow spayed across the face — several of them, appearing from a distance, to disappear up one nostril.

The Prime Minister was at the dispatch box making a statement on, and answering questions about, the Common Market summit which she had lately attended. Every now and then Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, would rave at her on the subject of El Salvador.

El Salvador is not a member of the Common Market. But it was too late to let Mr Foot know that now. Why spoil an elderly gentleman's illusion of a lifetime?

For a few seconds in her statement Mrs Thatcher touched on the summit's call for peace all round in El Salvador. That was enough for Mr Foot. He seized on the subject with glee.

For, like most of us, he regards Prime Ministerial statements about Common Market summits as the most indigestible mass of detail to come out of Europe since the Diet of Worms. Again like most of us, the Common Market only arouses his interest when it periodically inspires something outrageous. The wine joke! The butter mountain! Or, in connection with Mr Jenkins's former salary, the money mountain.

So no-one could blame him for latching on to El Salvador. At least it is all about things of which Mr Foot has direct experience in the British Labour movement: Marxist guerrillas, dubious elections, subversion. Merribly, he battered Mrs Thatcher for lending support to the

grotesque farce of the election in El Salvador. "On and on he went about the wretched place."

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh give a lunch for members of the Order of Merit. Windsor Castle.

New exhibitions

Watercolours, oil paintings and sculpture by the artists of the Metford Road Group. City Museum and Art Gallery, Bethesda Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent. Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5; from today until June 15.

Out of the Shadows — contemporary Irish photography. Ulster Museum, Botanic Gardens, Belfast. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Fri (from today until May 31).

Drawings by James Wyatt of the history of Heaton Hall, Heaton Hall, Heaton Park, Prestwich, Manchester. Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (from today until September 30).

The Most Beautiful Women by Pauline Phillips. 120 photographs of beautiful women. RPS National Centre of Photography, Milson Street, Bath. Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45; (from today until June 6).

Farm price talks, page 6
Leading article, letters, page 11

The Times list of best-selling books

Paperback				
The Middle Ground				
The White Hotel				
XPD				
Mr Smith's Favourite Garden				
Goodbye Janeite				
The Shooting Party				
Sweet Freedom				
Rites of Passage				
Relief				
The French Lieutenant's Woman				
John Fowles				

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hamer's to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through agents' bookshops and 20 others.

Weather

The general situation: A ridge of high pressure will remain over NE Scotland, but a depression will approach SW England later.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, Midlands, N Wales: Cloudy, bright intervals; wind E, strong SE, moderate locally fresh; max temp 9 or 10C (48 to 55F).

East Anglia, E and NE England: Rather cloudy, sunny intervals; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 8 or 9C (46 to 48F).

Central England, Channel Islands, SW England: Dry, rather cloudy, showers, intervals, locally fresh; max temp 10 or 11C (50 to 52F).

NW and Central England, Lake District, West Country: Dry, sunny intervals; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 9 or 10C (48 to 50F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Mainly dry, rather cloudy, sunny intervals, wind SE or moderate; max temp 8 or 9C (46 to 50F).

Central Highlands, Argyle, NW Scotland: Dry, sunny intervals; wind E, locally fresh; max temp 10 or 11C (50 to 52F).

Outer Hebrides: Dry, sunny intervals; wind S, moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Sea Passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel: Dry, strong winds, sea moderate; S seas moderate, fresh; S seas moderate, fresh; W seas moderate, fresh; N seas moderate, fresh.

Sea Passages: S North Sea, Orkney, Shetland: Dry, sunny intervals; wind S, moderate; S seas moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Some bright intervals, some showers, parts becoming drier and brighter later.

Sea Passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel: Dry, strong winds, sea moderate; S seas moderate, fresh; W seas moderate, fresh; N seas moderate, fresh.

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